

A NEW GENERAL HISTORY  
OF THE  
W O R L D;

Comprehending both the

ANCIENT and MODERN History

OF

Its several EMPIRES, KINGDOMS, and  
STATES; their *Chronology, Antiquities,*  
*Government, Laws, Religion, Learning,*  
*Customs, Manners, Arts, Sciences, Commerce,*  
*and Trade: Buildings, Curiosities of Art and*  
*Nature, &c.*

FROM THE

C R E A T I O N,

TO THE

P R E S E N T T I M E:

Collected from the BEST AUTHORS in all  
LANGUAGES; and embellished with  
proper *Cuts and Maps.*

BY

The joint Labors of SEVERAL learned Gentlemen.

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V O L. III.

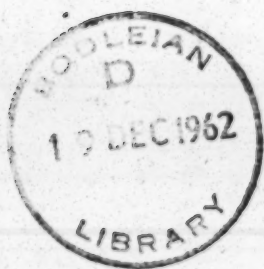
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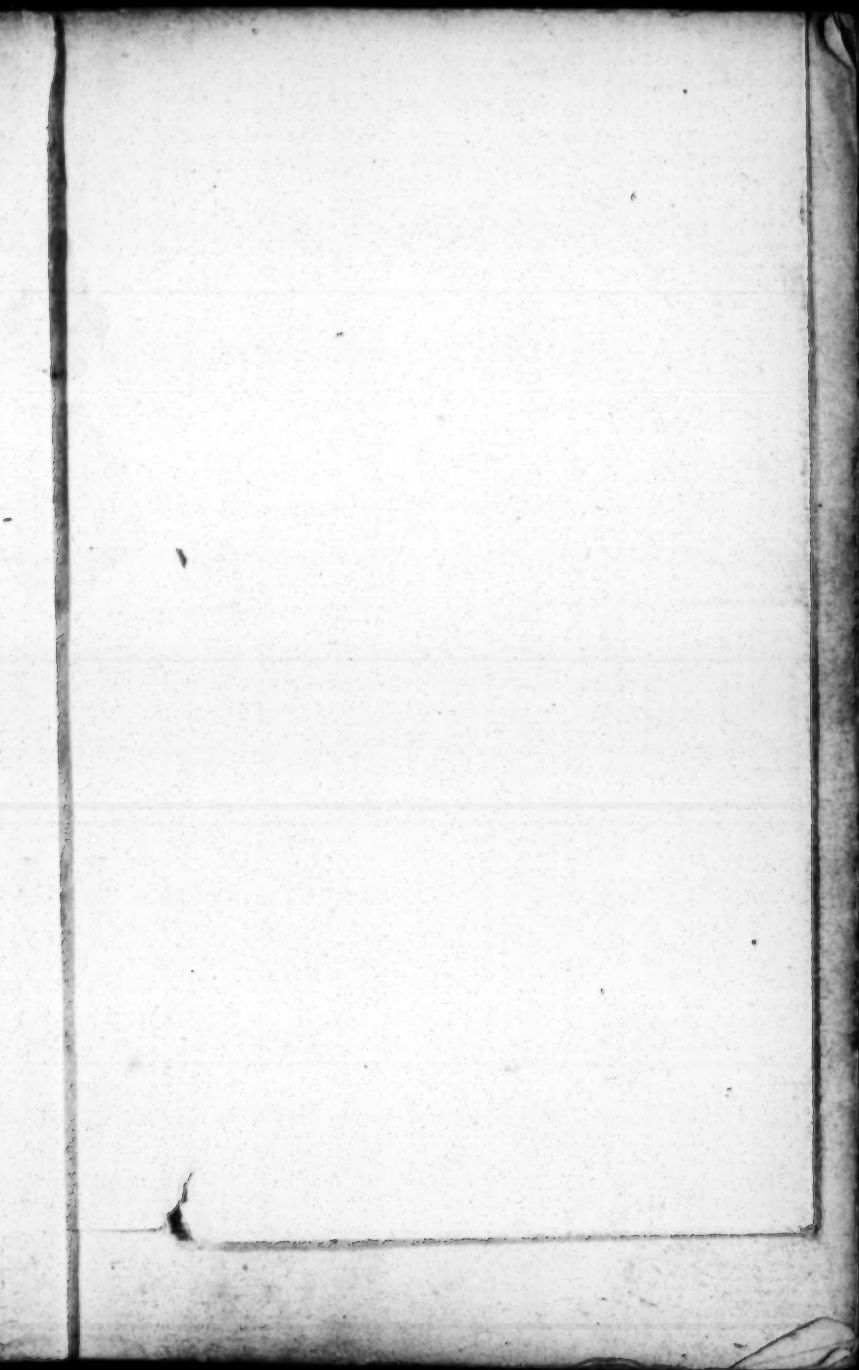
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**MARE MEDITERRANEUM**

**MARE**

**MEDITERRANEUM**

**MARMARICA**

**ARABIA PETREA**

**ARABICUS SINUS**

**ETHIOPIAE**

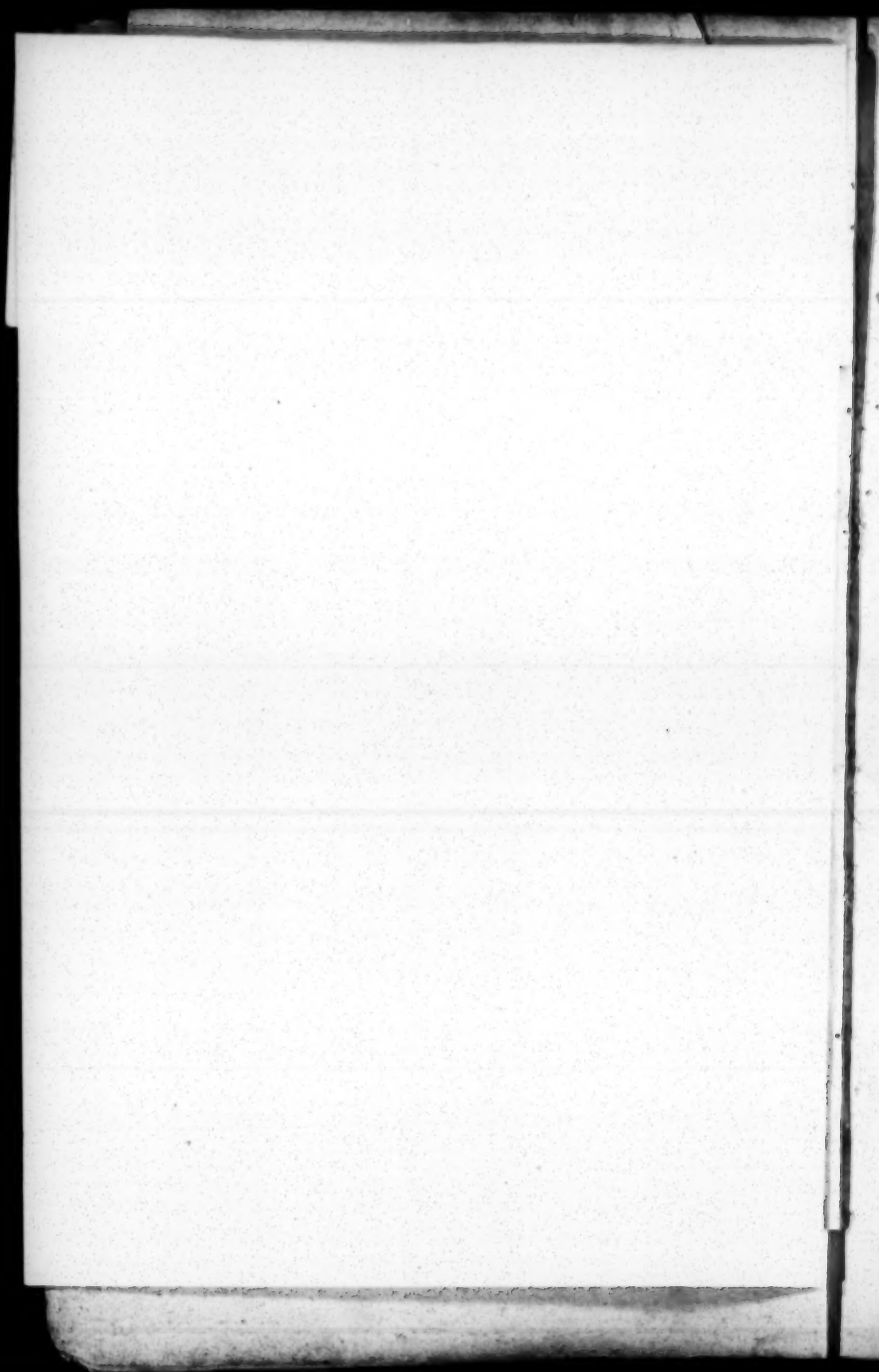
**AETHIOPIA**

**EGYPTUS**

**Supra**

**Meridies**

**Ancient EGYPT; including part of Lybia Cyrenaica.**



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BOOK III. CHAP. IV.

*The Reigns of the Egyptian Kings*  
continued.

**N**ECUS is the same who in scripture is called *Pharaoh Necho*, and often mentioned there under that name.<sup>h</sup> He began a canal of communication between the *Nile* and the *Red-Sea*, which *Darius the Persian* afterwards finished: but after he had consumed 120,000 men in the work, he was forced to desist from it, and leave the canal to be finished by a barbarian; for that name was given by the *Egyptians* to all those who were of another language.<sup>i</sup> He then built a fleet of gallies on the north sea; and another in the *Arabian* gulph, at the mouth of the *Red-Sea*; <sup>k</sup> after which, he got some of the expertest seamen in the *Phœnician* service, and sent them out by the *Red-Sea* through the streights of *Babelmandel*, to discover the coasts of *Africa*, who, having sailed

Vol. III. B round

Year of the  
world 3388.  
Before Christ  
616.

<sup>h</sup> *Prideaux*, p. 37. *Herodot. Melpomene*, p. 363.

<sup>i</sup> *Herod.* II. 231. *Prideaux*, p. 37.

<sup>k</sup> *Herod.* II. 231.



round it, came home the third year, through the streights of *Gibraltar* and the *Mediterranean-Sea*; <sup>l</sup> which was a very extraordinary voyage to be made in those days, when the use of the load-stone was not known.<sup>m</sup> They entered into the southern sea, and went ashore in *Lybia* about the time of the autumnal equinox, and having sowed the land in what part soever they arrived, waited the time of harvest, and when they had cut the corn, put to sea again.<sup>n</sup> This voyage was performed about 2100 years before *Vasquez de Gama*, a *Portuguese*, by discovering the cape of good-hope, in 1497, found out the way from hence to the *Indies*, by which these *Phœnicians* came from thence. Since that it hath been made the common passage thither from all these western parts of the world :<sup>o</sup> *Herodotus* says, that this prince was also formidable by land, and fought a battle against the *Syrians* in the plains of *Magdolus*, where he obtained the victory, and took the great city of *Cadytis*. The garments he wore in these actions, he consecrated to *Apollo*,  
and

<sup>l</sup> *Ibid.* IV. p. 364.

<sup>m</sup> *Prideaux*, p. 37.

<sup>n</sup> *Herod.* IV. 364.

<sup>o</sup> *Prideaux*, p. 37. *Roll's Hist. of South America*, v. I. p. 25 The discovery of the mariners compass has been of more general and important use to human society, than any other instrument; and the invention of it is usually ascribed to *Flavio de Melfi*, or *Flavio Girolamo*, a *Neapolitan*, about 1302. *Ibid.* p. 23.

and sent them to *Branchis* in the territories of the *Milefians*.<sup>p</sup>

*Josephus*, following *Ctesias*, says, that *Necus* made war upon the *Medes* and *Babylonians*, who had dissolved the *Assyrian* empire, and became so formidable hereon, as raised the jealousy of all their neighbors; and therefore, to put a stop to their growing greatness, *Necus* marched with a great army towards the *Euphrates*, to make war upon them; in the 31st year of *Josiah* king of *Judah*.<sup>q</sup> But the scripture expressly says, that “*Pharaoh Necho king of Egypt went up against the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates: and king Josiah went against him, and he slew him at Megiddo.*”<sup>r</sup> This valley of *Megiddo* in the scripture, is the same as the plains of *Magdolum* in *Herodotus*; and the whole is related thus by dean *Prideaux*. On *Necus* taking his way through *Judæa*, *Josiah* resolved to impede his march; and posted himself in the valley of *Megiddo*, to stop his passage: whereon *Necus* sent ambassadors to him, to let him know that he had no design upon him; that the war he was engaged in, was against others; and therefore advised him not to meddle with him, least it should turn to his hurt. But *Josiah* not hearkening thereto, it came to a battle between them, wherein *Josiah* was not only overthrown, but

B 2

also

<sup>p</sup> *Herod.* II. 232. — *Cadytis* is thought to be *Jerusalem*. *Prideaux*, p. 44, 45.

<sup>q</sup> *Joseph.* *antiq.* I. X. c. 6.

p. 236.

<sup>r</sup> 2. *Kings* xxiii. 29.

<sup>s</sup> *Prideaux*. 42.



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also unfortunately received a wound, of which on his return to *Jerusalem* he there died.<sup>1</sup>

*Necus*, animated by this victory, continued his march, and advanced towards the *Euphrates*, where he defeated the *Babylonians*, and took *Charchemish*, a great city in those parts, where he left a good garrison, and after three months returned again towards *Egypt*: but hearing in his way, that *Jeboabaz* the son of *Josiah*, had taken upon him to be king of *Judah* without his consent, he sent for him to *Riblah* in *Syria*, and on his arrival caused him to be put in chains, and sent him prisoner into *Egypt*, where he died. *Necus*, then proceeding on his way, came to *Jerusalem*, where he made *Jeboiakim*, another of the sons of *Josiah*, king instead of his brother, and put the land to an annual tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold; after which, he returned with great triumph into his own kingdom.<sup>2</sup>

*Nabopolassar*, king of *Babylon*, observing  
that

<sup>1</sup> *Prideaux's Connect.* v. I. p. 40. 41. — 2 *Chron.* xxxv. 20. — 25.

<sup>2</sup> *Prideaux*, 44. 2 *Kings*, xxiii. 31. 2 *Chron.* xxxvi. 1. — 5. The whole annual tribute as here taxed, amounted to 52,200 l. sterling; according to dean *Prideaux*, p. 44. n. i. But, according to bishop *Cumberland*, the *Hebrew* silver talent is equivalent to 353 l. 11 s. 10 d.  $\frac{3}{4}$  so that 100 talents *English* money make 35,359 l. 7 s. 6 d. The gold talent, according to the same, is 5075 l. 15 s. 7 d.  $\frac{3}{4}$  so that the amount of the whole tribute was 40,435 l. 3 s. 1 d.  $\frac{3}{4}$  by this calculation.

that since the taking of *Charchemish* by *Necus*, all *Syria* and *Palestine* had revolted to him, he took *Nebuchadnezzar* his son into partnership with him in the empire, and sent him with an army into those parts.<sup>w</sup> This young prince vanquished the army of *Necus* at the *Euphrates*, retook *Charchemish*, and reduced the revolted provinces to their allegiance, as *Jeremiah* had foretold.<sup>x</sup> Thus he dispossessed the *Egyptians* of all that belonged to them, from the little river of *Egypt* to the *Euphrates*, which comprehended all *Syria* and *Palestine*.<sup>y</sup>

*Necus* died about eight years after he had been defeated by *Nebuchadnezzar*, having reigned sixteen years; and *Psammitis* his son succeeded him in the kingdom.

*PSAMMITIS* reigned only six years; and having undertaken an expedition against the *Ethiopians*, died soon after, and left the kingdom to his son *Apries*.<sup>a</sup>

Year of the  
world 3404.  
Before Christ  
600.

While *Psammitis* reigned in *Egypt*, the olympic games were instituted by the people of *Elis* in *Greece*; on which occasion the *Eleans* sent a splendid embassy to this prince, to obtain the approbation of the *Egyptians*, who were

B 3 esteemed

<sup>w</sup> *Berosus* apud *Josephum Antiqu.* lib. X. c. ii. & contra *Apionem*, lib. I. See *Court's Joseph.* p. 244. 749. *Rollin*, XII. 201.

<sup>x</sup> *Daniel*, i. 1. *Jerom.* xlvi. 2—27. *Prideaux*, I. 50. 52. <sup>y</sup> 2 *Kings*, xxiv. 7.

<sup>a</sup> *Herod.* b. II. p. 233. *Prideaux*, p. 53.

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esteemed the wisest people in the world. Accordingly the king assembled the sages of his nation, and consulted upon the utility of this institution; which they thought defective, because the citizens of *Elis* were allowed to contend at their own games, as well as foreigners; for no consideration was sufficient to restrain men from favouring those of their own country to the prejudice of strangers. Therefore they ought to exclude all the *Eleans*, and admit only strangers to be the opponents.<sup>b</sup>

APRIES is called *Pharaoh-Hophra* in scripture,<sup>c</sup> and reigned 25 years, in greater prosperity than any of his predecessors, except his grandfather *Psammitichus*.<sup>d</sup> He took *Sidon*, and conquered all *Phanicia*

<sup>b</sup> *Herod.* p. 232. *Diodorus* makes no mention of *Necus* and *Psammis*.

<sup>c</sup> *Jerem.* xlv. 30. *Ezek.* xxix. *Pharaoh* was the common name for all the *Egyptian* kings for above 1300 years, according to *Josephus*, who says, *Pharaoh*, in the *Egyptian* language, signified *King*: he thinks, they had other names given them from their childhood; but when they came to be kings they assumed that name, as an appellation which in their native tongue denoted *power*. *Joseph.* *Antiq.* b. VIII. ch. vi. p. 191. *Renaudot* thinks, that *Pharaoh* is the same with the *Egyptian* *Pauero*, or *Pooro*, which signifies a *King*. *Bochart* thinks it signifies a *Crocodile*: and *Le Clerc* fancies, the *Arabic* word *Pharaoh*, to be raised on *high*, or to be superior to, is the true root of the name. *Stackhouse*, p. 217.

<sup>d</sup> *Herod.* II. 233.

*Phœnicia* and *Palestine*: after which he concluded an alliance with *Zedekiah* king of *Judah*,<sup>e</sup> declared himself the protector of *Israel*, and promised to deliver it from the tyranny of *Nebuchadnezzar*, who soon after destroyed *Jerusalem*, and carried away *Zedekiah* captive to *Babylon*.<sup>f</sup> Soon after, the judgments which God had denounced by the mouth of his prophets against *Apries* began to operate.<sup>g</sup> For the *Cyreneans*, a colony of the *Greeks* that had settled in *Africa*, having taken from the *Lybians* a great part of their land, and divided it among themselves, the *Lybians* made a surrender both of themselves and their country into the hands of *Apries* to obtain his protection. *Apries* thereon sent a great army into *Lybia* to wage war against the *Cyreneans*, which having the misfortune to be defeated, were almost all destroyed. The *Egyptians* entertained an opinion that *Apries* intended this army should perish, and many of them revolted from him: upon which, he sent *AMASIS*, an officer of his court, to appease them, and reduce them again to their duty. But while he was speaking to them, they put on his head the ensigns of royalty, and declared him their king. He accepted of this dignity, and increased the revolt; at which *Apries* was so much

<sup>e</sup> *Ezek.* xxvii. 15. *Prideaux*, 59.  
*Prideaux* 68,

& *Prideaux* 71.

<sup>f</sup> *Jerem.* xxxvii,

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much incensed, that he sent *Paterbemis*, another officer of his court, and one of the first rank among his followers, to arrest *Amasis*, and bring him into his presence; which he was not able to effect, and on his return had his ears and nose cut off by the command of the king. The wrong and indignity offered to a person of his character and worth, so enraged the rest of the *Egyptians*, that the revolt became almost general: whereon *Apries* was forced to fly, and make his escape into the upper *Egypt*, where he maintained himself for some years, while *Amasis* held all the rest.<sup>h</sup> The king of *Babylon* took advantage of these intestine divisions, and subdued *Egypt* from *Migdol* to *Syene*: that is, from one end of the kingdom to the other.<sup>i</sup> He made a miserable ravage and devastation wherever he came; killed a great number of the inhabitants; and made such dreadful havoc in the county, that the damage could not be repaired in forty years.<sup>k</sup> *Nebuchadnezzar* having loaded his army with spoils, and conquered the whole kingdom, came to an accommodation with *Amasis*, whom he left as his viceroy, and returned to *Babylon*.<sup>l</sup>

After *Nebuchadnezzar* was gone out of *Egypt*, *Apries* creeping out of his hiding places

<sup>h</sup> *Herod.* b. II. p. 234. *Prideaux's Connect.* v. I. p. 71.

<sup>i</sup> *Prideaux*, p. 73.

<sup>k</sup> *Ezek.* xxix.

<sup>l</sup> *Prideaux*, 73.

places got towards the sea-coasts, most likely into the parts of *Lybia*, and there hiring an army of *Carians*, *Ionians*, and other foreigners, marched against *Amasis*, and gave him battle near the city of *Memphis*; in which being vanquished and taken prisoner, he was carried to the city of *Sais*, and there strangled in his own palace;<sup>m</sup> whereby all the prophecies of *Jeremiah* and *Ezekiel* were completed.<sup>n</sup> It is remarked of him by *Herodotus*, that he was of that pride and high conceit of himself, as to vaunt, that it was not in the power of God himself to dispossess him of his kingdom.<sup>o</sup> For the first twenty years of his reign he had enjoyed as prosperous a fortune as most of his predecessors; having had many successes against the *Cypriots*, *Zidonians*, *Philistines*, and other nations:<sup>p</sup> but after he took on himself, *Caligula* like, to be thought as a God, he fell from his former state, and made this miserable end. After his death, *Amasis*, without any farther opposition, became possessed of the whole kingdom of *Egypt*; which happened in the 19th year after the destruction of *Jerusalem*.<sup>q</sup>

AMASIS

<sup>m</sup> *Herod.* 234, 237.

<sup>n</sup> *Jerem.* xliiii. xlv. xlv. *Ezek.* xxix. xxx. xxxi. xxxii.

<sup>o</sup> *Herod.* 236.

<sup>p</sup> *Ibid.* *Died. Sic.* l. l.

<sup>q</sup> *Jer.* xlviii. 1.

<sup>q</sup> *Prideaux*, 74.



Year of the  
world 3435.  
Before Christ  
569.

AMASIS was a native of *Siuph* in the province of *Sais*, and of mean extraction:<sup>r</sup> but he is stiled the fifth law-giver of *Egypt*, on account of the good laws which he made. His usual manner was to employ all the hours of the morning in an assiduous application of the public affairs; and afterwards to divert himself in company, drinking with his companions, and frequently descending even to play the part of a buffoon. When his courtiers took the liberty to represent to him the impropriety of such a behaviour, he answered, that it was as impossible for the mind to be always serious and intent upon business, as for a bow to continue always bent.<sup>s</sup>

*Egypt* is said to have been perfectly happy during his reign, in the fecundity of the *Nile*; and to have contained no less than 20,000 populous cities. To maintain good order in the midst of such a multitude, *Amasis* made a law, whereby every *Egyptian* was obliged once a year to inform the governor of the province, by what means he maintained himself; and if he omitted to go, or gave not a satisfactory account, he was to suffer death.<sup>t</sup>

He

<sup>r</sup> *Herod. b. II. p. 237.*

<sup>t</sup> *Ibid. 241.*

<sup>s</sup> *Ibid. 238, 239.*

He built that admirable portico which stood before the temple of *Minerva* in *Sais*, far surpassing all others in circumference and elevation, as well as in the dimensions of the stones: he also adorned the building with colossian statues, and the monstrous figures of *Androsphynes*. But, what is most to be admired, he removed a house, made of one stone, from *Elephantis* to *Sais*, which was as far as a vessel could make in 20 days; and 2000 men, all pilots, were employed three years in the transportation of it.<sup>u</sup> He was very magnificent in the gifts and ornaments he bestowed upon the other celebrated temples, particularly on that of *Vulcan* at *Memphis*, before which he placed a colossus, lying with the face upwards, 75 feet in length: and on the same basis, or pavement, he erected two statues of 20 feet each, cut out of the same stone, and placed on each side of the great colossus. Like this, another was seen in *Sais*: and he also built the great temple of *Isis* at *Memphis*, which was well worthy of admiration.<sup>w</sup>

*Amasis* had a great esteem for the *Greeks*, to whom he granted large privileges, and permitted such of them as were desirous of settling in *Egypt* to live at *Naucrates*; which was a city famous for its port, and anciently the only place of resort for merchants in all *Egypt*.

<sup>u</sup> *Ibid.* II. p. 240.

<sup>w</sup> *Ibid.* 241.



*Egypt.* He granted them places where they might erect altars and temples to their own deities : but the most celebrated was that called the *Grecian temple*, built at the common expence of the *Ionian* cities of *Chio*, *Teos*, *Phocæa*, and *Clazomene* ; in conjunction with the *Dorian* cities of *Rhodes*, *Cnidus*, *Halicarnassus*, *Phaselis*, and the *Æolians* of *Mitylene*. Those of *Ægina* also built a temple to *Jupiter* ; the *Samians* another to *Juno* ; and the *Milesians* a third to *Apollo*. The *Greeks* had permission to elect their own officers, who were to preside over their religion, and their commercial affairs.<sup>x</sup>

*Amasis* sent several consecrated donations to *Greece* ; and married *Ladice* a *Grecian* woman ; who, according to some, was the daughter of *Battus* ; and, according to others, of *Arcefilaus*, or *Critobulus*, a person of high authority among the *Cyreneans*.<sup>y</sup> He was the first who conquered *Cyprus*, and exacted a tribute from its inhabitants.<sup>z</sup>

Hitherto we have represented this reign in the majestic colours bestowed on it by the *Egyptian* priests : but the latter days of *Amasis* were darkened by a dreadful storm, which threatened the utter ruin of *Egypt*. *Xenophon* writes, that *Cyrus* conquered *Egypt* ; if so, it must have been during this long reign : and *Herodotus* says, that *Amasis* and *Craesus* were confederated

<sup>x</sup> *Ibid.* p. 242.

<sup>y</sup> *Ibid.* p. 243.

<sup>z</sup> *Ibid.* 244.

confederated against *Cyrus*. It is certain, that *Nebuchadnezzar* almost ruined the whole kingdom: but no mention is made of this by profane authors, who, so far as they have touched upon *Egyptian* affairs, copied the ancient records of that nation, or depended upon the oral tradition of their priests.

*Cambyſis* the ſon of *Cyrus*, in ſcripture called *Ahaſuerus*, was naturally a raſh and paſſionate prince, and was incenſed againſt *Amas*is to ſuch a degree, as has ſcarce its parallel in hiſtory: but it is uncertain from whence this enmity ſprang.<sup>a</sup>

*Herodotus* tells us, it was becauſe *Amas*is, when *Cambyſes* deſired one of his daughters to wife, ſent him a daughter of *Apries* inſtead of his own.<sup>b</sup> But this could not be true; becauſe *Apries* having been dead forty years before, no daughter of his could be young enough at that time to be acceptable to *Cambyſes*. They ſpeak with more probability, who ſay, it was *Cyrus*, and not *Cambyſes*, to whom this daughter was ſent. Her name they ſay was *Nitetis*, who for ſome time concealed her true parentage, and was content to go for the daughter of *Amas*is, till ſhe had ſeveral children by *Cyrus*, and had fully ſecured herſelf in his favour and affection. She then diſcovered to him the whole truth, and excited him to revenge her father's wrong up-

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C

on

<sup>a</sup> *Joſta*, l. I. c. 9.

<sup>b</sup> *Herod. Iſta*. p. 245.

on *Amasis*; which he intended to have done, as soon as his other affairs would have permitted; but died before he could execute his intentions: upon which *Cambyfes*, who they say was her son, undertook the quarrel on her account, and made this war upon *Egypt* for no other reason, than to revenge upon *Amasis* the cause of *Apries*. However, it is most likely, that whereas *Amasis* had subjected himself to *Cyrus*, and became his tributary; he on his death withdrew his allegiance from his successor, and that this was the true cause of the war.<sup>c</sup> For the carrying on whereof *Cambyfes* made great preparations both by sea and land. For the sea service he engaged the *Cypriots* and the *Phœnicians* to assist him with their fleets: and for the war by land, besides his other forces, he had a great number of *Greeks*, *Ionians*, and *Æolians*, in his army, who were the main strength of it. But the greatest help he had in this war was from *Phanes*, an *Halicarnassian*, who being a commander of some of the *Grecian* auxiliaries, that were in the service of *Amasis*, on some disgust given him, revolted to *Cambyfes*, and made those discoveries to him, of the nature of the country, the strength of the enemy, and the state of their affairs, as chiefly conducted to the success of the enterprize. It was by his advice that *Cambyfes* contracted with

<sup>c</sup> *Prideaux's Connex*, part I, B. III, p. 132.

with the *Arabian* kings that lay next the borders of *Palestine* and *Egypt*, to supply him with water, while he passed the desarts that lay between these two countries, where accordingly it was brought him on the backs of camels, without which he could never have marched his army that way. Being therefore thus prepared, he invaded *Egypt* in the fourth year of his reign : but on his arrival on the borders he found *Amasis* was newly dead, and that *Psammetus* his son being made king in his stead, was drawing together a great army to oppose him.<sup>d</sup>

*Amasis* died before this invasion, after he had reigned 44 years, in a continued course of felicity. His body was embalmed, and interred in the sepulchre which he had built for himself in the temple.<sup>e</sup>

Under his reign *Pythagoras* came into *Egypt*, being recommended to *Amasis* by the famous *Polycrates*, tyrant of *Samos*, who had contracted a friendship with the *Egyptian* king. *Pythagoras* was initiated in all the mysteries of the country, and instructed by the priests in whatever was most abstruse and important in their religion. It was here he imbibed his doctrine of the metempsychosis or transmigration of souls.<sup>f</sup> It is said, *Amasis* had also

C 2

a

<sup>d</sup> *Ibid.* Herod. b. III. p. 247—250. <sup>e</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>f</sup> Herod. b. III. p. 271—273. Rollin, i. 101.

a visit from *Solon*:<sup>g</sup> which might be true, for *Solon* lived about this time.<sup>h</sup>

Year of the world 3479.  
Before Christ 525.

PSAMMENITUS, the son and successor of *Amasis*, had a short and calamitous reign. *Cambyfes* besieged *Pelufium*, and took it: *Pfammenitus* advanced to oppose his farther progress, and a bloody battle ensued near that town. The *Egyptians* were defeated, and fled to *Memphis*, where they were closely besieged by the *Persians*, who obliged it to surrender; and so fell the glory of *Egypt*. The news of this struck such terror among the *Lybians*, *Cyreneans*, and *Barceans*, that they submitted to *Cambyfes*, and implored his protection.<sup>i</sup>

The insolent conqueror treated the captive king in the most cruel and ignominious manner: his daughter was dishonored as a slave; and his son executed as a malefactor.<sup>k</sup> After this, *Cambyfes* was inclined to have dealt kindly with *Pfammenitus*; for at first he gave him his life, and allowed him wherewith honorably to live: but he not being contented herewith endeavored to raise new troubles for the recovery of his crown; whereon he was forced to drink bulls blood, and so ended his life. His reign was only six months; for so much time only inter-

<sup>g</sup> *Univer. hist.* II. 92.

*Univer. hist.* XXI. 61.

<sup>k</sup> *Ibid.* 254.

<sup>h</sup> *Rollin*, XII. 200.

<sup>i</sup> *Herod.* III. p. 251, 252.

Intervened from the death of his father to the taking of *Memphis*, when he fell into the hands of the enemy, and all his power ceased.<sup>1</sup>

All *Egypt* submitted to the *Persian* king, who went from *Memphis* to *Sais*, where the *Egyptian* kings for several descents past had kept their usual residence, and there entering into the palace caused the body of *Amasis* to be dug up out of his grave, and after all manner of indignities had been offered thereto in his presence, he ordered it to be cast into the fire and burnt. This, says *Herodotus*, was an action of impiety; because the *Persians* believed fire to be a God; and to burn a dead body was not permitted in either nation: for the *Persians* held it a violation of religion to feed a God with the dead body of a man: and the *Egyptians* held that fire was a savage animal, which devours all that comes within his reach; and after he has glutted his voracious appetite, expires with the things he has consumed: neither were they accustomed to give the bodies of dead men to wild beasts; but rather chose to embalm them than to bury them in the earth, lest they should be eaten by worms. So that *Cambyfes* commanded a thing entirely repugnant to the manners of both nations. This rage against the carcase shews the anger he had against the man; and whatsoever it was that provoked it, this seems to be the cause that brought him into *Egypt*.<sup>m</sup>

C 3

Besides

<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.* 255. *Prideaux*, I. 133.

<sup>m</sup> *Ibid.*



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Besides these indignities shewn to their kings, the *Egyptians* now felt the heavy pressure of conquest in a very extraordinary manner. They saw their God *Apis* slain; and their priests ignominiously scourged:<sup>n</sup> all which made such dreadful impressions on the minds of the whole nation, that they ever afterwards bore an irreconcilable aversion to the *Persians*. Thus were the *Egyptians* reduced to the lowest degree of submission: their royal line was extinct; their religion was trampled on in the most outrageous manner; and themselves persecuted and despised for the profession they made of it. The kingdom fell a prey to *Cambyſes*, the most violent and outrageous of all princes, after it had continued happily governed above 1600 years.<sup>o</sup>

Here ends the succession of the *Egyptian* kings; and from this æra the history of this nation becomes blended with that of the *Persians* and *Greeks*, till the death of *Alexander* the great,<sup>p</sup> when a new monarchy arose in *Egypt*, founded by *Ptolemy* the son of *Lagus*, which continued to the death of *Cleopatra*, that is, for about 300 years.<sup>s</sup>

The Almighty had given by the mouth of his prophets an astonishing relation of the several circumstances of this mighty event. Thus *Ezekiel* declared, that during forty years,<sup>t</sup> the  
*Egyptians*

<sup>n</sup> *Herod.* III. 263.

<sup>o</sup> *Univ. hist.* II. 98.

<sup>p</sup> *Bossuet*, p. 133.

*Rollin*, I. 102.

XII. 203.

*Daniel*, XI. 1.—5.

<sup>s</sup> *Rollin*, I. 102.

<sup>t</sup> *Ezek.* xxix. 13.—20.

*Egyptians* should be oppressed with every species of calamity, and be reduced to so deplorab'le a state, "that there should be no more a prince of the land of *Egypt*." The event verified this prophecy. Soon after the expiration of these 40 years, *Egypt* was made a province of the *Persian* empire, and has been governed ever since by foreigners: for after the ruin of the *Persian* monarchy, it has been subject successively to the *Macedonians*, *Romans*, *Saracens*, *Mamelukes*, and lastly to the *Turks*, who possess it at this day.<sup>w</sup>

<sup>u</sup> *Ibid.* xxx. 13. xxxii. "The *Egyptians* will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them, saith the Lord." *Isai.* xix. 4. xx. *Jerem.* xliii. 8.—13. xliv. 30. xlv. 13—27.

<sup>w</sup> *Rollin*, I. 99.



## BOOK III. CHAP. V.

*The SECOND PERIOD of the reigns of the kings of Egypt; from its conquest by CAMBYSES, in the year of the world 3479, to the death of ALEXANDER the Great, in 3681; including 202 years.*

Year of the  
world 3480.  
Before Christ  
524.

WHILE *Cambyses* was in *Egypt*, he resolved to make war in three different countries; against the *Carthaginians*, *Ammonians*, and *Ethiopians*. He left the *Grecians* behind him in his new conquered country, to keep it in subjection during his absence, and began his march against the *Ethiopians*, without considering, that he neither had provisions, nor any thing necessary for such an expedition. When he arrived at *Thebes*, in the upper *Egypt*, he detached 50,000 men against the *Ammonians*, ordering them to ravage the whole country, and burn the oracle of *Jupiter Ammon*; while he, with the rest of his army, should march against the *Ethiopians*: but both expeditions were very unsuccessful. That part of the army sent against the *Ammonians* arrived at *Oasis*, about seven days march distant from *Thebes*: but  
after

after they had entered the sandy desert beyond that city, a violent wind began to blow from the south at the time of their dinner, and raised the sands to such a degree, that the whole army was overwhelmed, and buried alive.<sup>a</sup> In the mean time, *Cambyfes* marched forwards like a madman towards the *Ethiopians*; for being destitute of all sorts of provisions, a terrible famine soon ensued in his army. He had still time to remedy this evil; but rashly persisted in his expedition. At first, his troops were obliged to live upon herbs, roots, and leaves of trees: next, they were reduced to the necessity of eating their beasts of burden: last, they were brought to such a cruel extremity as to be obliged to eat one another; and every tenth man, upon whom the lot fell, was doomed to serve as food for his companions. The king still persisted in his design, till the danger of his own person made him give over the enterprize, and retreat to *Thebes*, after having lost the greatest part of his army in this wild attempt.<sup>b</sup>

*Cambyfes*, on his return to *Thebes*, destroyed all the temples,<sup>c</sup> and carried away the famous circle of gold that encompassed the tomb of king *Osymanduas*.<sup>d</sup> He then marched

<sup>a</sup> *Herod. Thalia*, b. III. p. 256.—261. *Univ. hist.* v. V. p. 194. *Rollin's ancient hist.* v. II. p. 236.

<sup>b</sup> *Ibid.* <sup>c</sup> See v. II. p. 25.

<sup>d</sup> *Ibid.* 49. 55. *Rollin*, II. 237.

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marched to *Memphis*, where he discharged the *Grecian* mercenaries, and sent them to their respective countries. He found the *Memphians* full of rejoicings, because their God *Apis* had then appeared among them, at which he was enraged, supposing all this to have been for the ill success of his expedition. He put the magistrates to death, as impostors that insulted him and his misfortunes. He then made the priests bring their God *Apis* before him: but when, instead of a God, he saw a calf, he was strangely astonished, fell into a rage, drew out his dagger, and run it into the thigh of the beast. After this, he upbraided the priests for their stupidity, in worshiping a brute for a God, and ordered them to be severely whipped. He also gave orders, for all the citizens in *Memphis*, that were found celebrating the feast of *Apis*, to be slain. This *Egyptian* God was carried back to the temple, where he soon died of his wound, and was buried by the priests, who carefully concealed his death from *Cambyfes*. The *Egyptians* say, that after this sacrilegious action, *Cambyfes* grew mad: but his actions shewed, that he was so long before, of which he gave several instances, as mentioned in *Herodotus*.<sup>c</sup>

*Cambyfes*

<sup>c</sup> *Herod.* III. 261. 263. *Univ. hist.* V. 195. *Rollin*, II. 238.

*Cambyſes* left *Egypt*, and returned towards *Persia*: but died on his march, at *Ecbatan* in *Syria*, of a wound which he accidentally received in his thigh, by his own sword slipping out of the scabbard, as he mounted his horse.<sup>f</sup> He was succeeded by *SMERDIS* the *Magian*, who usurped the *Persian* throne before *Cambyſes* died: but reigned only seven months, and was succeeded by *DARIUS* the son of *Hystaspes*, who divided the *Persian* dominions into twenty satrapies, or provinces, and constituted a governor in each division.

Year of the world 3482.  
Before Christ 522.

Year of the world 3483.  
Before Christ 521.

He also appointed the tribute which every nation was obliged to pay into his treasury; and in some places united to those nations the inhabitants of the adjacent regions. Thus, *Egypt*, and those parts of *Lybia* which bordered on it, together with *Cyrene* and *Barca*, made up the sixth satrapy, and contributed 700 talents; & besides the revenue arising from the fishery of the lake *Mæris*; <sup>h</sup> and a sufficient quantity of corn for 120,000

*Persians*

<sup>f</sup> *Herod.* b. III. p. 288. *Rollin*, II. 244. This *Cambyſes* in scripture is called *Akasaerus*: and *Smerdis* is there called *Artaxerxes*

<sup>g</sup> It was the *Babylonian* talent of silver, which was equal to 70 *Eubæan* minas. *Herod.* III. 305. According to *Dr. Bernard*, the *Babylonish* talent in silver was equal to 240l. 12s. 6d. sterling. *Prideaux's* preface, I. xxi. So that the 700 talents amounted to 168,437 l. 10s. 0d. sterling. <sup>h</sup> See v. II. p. 82.

*Persians* and their *Auxiliaries*, who had their station within the white wall of *Memphis*.<sup>b</sup>

A people who had been bred up to such a solemn observance of the institutions of their forefathers, must think themselves unhappy under such governors as held their laws in derision; and therefore the *Egyptians* frequently consulted how they might shake off the intolerable yoke of their *Persian* oppressors. The *Persians* had invaded *Greece*, where they were defeated at *Marathon*, and that defeat encouraged the *Egyptians* to revolt against *Darius*, while he was making the most formidable preparations to enter *Greece* himself at the head of a prodigious army. The revolt in *Egypt* gave him great uneasiness, and he resolved to make war at once against the *Grecians* and *Egyptians*: but *Herodotus* says, that *Darius* died, in the second year of the revolt of *Egypt*, after he had reigned 36 years; and had not the satisfaction of executing his designs either against the *Egyptians* or *Athenians*.<sup>i</sup> This great historian was born at *Halicarnassus*, a *Grecian* colony in the lower *Asia*, in the year of the world 3520, and before Christ 484; which was six years after the battle of *Marathon*, and one year after the death of *Darius Hystaspes*.<sup>k</sup>

However, it appears from *Diodorus Siculus*, that *Darius* went to *Egypt*, and suppressed the

<sup>b</sup> *Herod.* III. p. 306.  
*ma*, vol. II. p. 151.

<sup>i</sup> *Herod.* b. VII. *Polym-*

<sup>k</sup> *Littlebury's pref.* p. 7.  
*Rossin*, vol. III, 292, XII. 211.

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the insurrection. He also relates, that *Darius* desired to have his statue placed before that of *Sesostris*: but that the chief priest of the *Egyptians* should answer, *he had not yet equalled the glory of that conqueror*; to which the king replied, he would endeavour to surpass it.<sup>1</sup> *Herodotus* also says, that when the statue of *Darius* was brought to the temple of *Vulcan*, the priest would not suffer it to be placed above that of *Sesostris*; saying openly, that the actions of the *Persian* were not so illustrious as those of the *Egyptian* king. For besides the conquest of *Scythia*, his other acquisitions were equal to those of *Darius*, who could not subdue the *Scythians*: And to prefer a man before *Sesostris*, who had not surpassed him in glorious actions, would be unjust; all which was forgiven by *Darius*.<sup>m</sup>

*Diodorus* adds further, that *Darius* detested the impious cruelty which *Cambyfes* exercised in *Egypt*; and expressed such great reverence for their gods and temples, that he had several conversations with the *Egyptian* priests upon matters of religion and government; and that having learnt of them, with what gentleness their ancient kings used to treat their subjects, he endeavoured, after his

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return

<sup>1</sup> *Died.* l. I. p. 54, and 85.      <sup>m</sup> *Herod.* b. II. v. I. p. 197. We have inserted this remark of *Herodotus*; because it is omitted by *M. Rollin*, and even by the more accurate authors of the *Universal History*. See *Univ. Hist.* v. V. p. 224. note. *Rollin*, v. III. 197.



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return into *Persia*, to form himself upon their model.

Year of the world 3519. Before Christ 485.    **XERXES** succeeded his father *Darius Hystaspis*, and employed the first year of his reign in carrying on the preparations for

the reduction of *Egypt*, which his father had begun. He marched against the *Egyptians* the next year; reduced them to his obedience, and made the yoke of their subjection more intolerable. He appointed his brother *Achæmenes* governor of that province, and returned to *Susa*, greatly elated with the success of his expedition: but *Achæmenes* was afterwards killed by *Inarus*, the son of *Psammitichus*, a *Lybian*.<sup>n</sup> *Xerxes* invaded *Greece* with an army consisting of two millions, six hundred and forty one thousand, fighting men; of which 517,610 were seamen on board his fleet. The *Egyptians* sent two hundred ships for their part, whose men had a cap strongly quilted, and a convex buckler with a great boss; javelins proper for a sea fight, and bills of the largest size: The more ordinary sort wore a corset, and were armed with a great cutting sword.<sup>o</sup> This almost incredible army was defeated by a small force of noble *Greeks* at *Thermopylae*, *Salamis*, and the sea fight near *Artemisium*; which obliged

<sup>n</sup> *Herod. b. VII. p. 153. Rollin, III. 202. Pri-deaux, I. 182. Usser. 93.*    <sup>o</sup> *Herod. b. VII. p. 252. Rollin, III. 219.* Neither the authors of the *Univ. Hist.* nor *Rollin*, have taken the least notice of this particular; though it may be found in *Herodotus, b. VII. 193.*

obliged *Xerxes* to return precipitately into *Persia*, where, seven years afterwards, he was killed by *Artabanus*, captain of his guard.<sup>p</sup>

ARTAXERXES LONGIMANUS, Year of the  
the third son of *Xerxes*, succeed- world 3531.  
ed his father in the throne of Before Christ  
*Persia*; <sup>r</sup> and the great historian 473-  
*Thucydides* was born two years afterwards.

In the fifth year of his reign, the *Egyptians* revolted again; chose *Inarus* king of *Lybia* to fill their throne; and called in the *Athenians* to their assistance, who cheerfully embraced this opportunity of expelling the *Persians* out of *Egypt*,<sup>s</sup> by sending a fleet of 200 ships from the island of *Cyprus*, to assist the *Egyptians*. When *Artaxerxes* was informed of this revolt, he raised an army of 300,000 men, and resolved to march in person against the revolters: but he was dissuaded from hazarding his person in this expedition, and committed it to the care of *Achæmenides*, one of his brothers.

*Herodotus* and *Diodorus Siculus* say, that it was *Achæmenes* the brother of *Xerxes*, and uncle of *Artaxerxes*, who had the government of *Egypt* in the begining of the last reign, that had the conduct of this war: but they were deceived by the similitude of the names: for it appears by *Ctesias*, that he

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was

<sup>p</sup> *Justin*, l. III. c. 1. <sup>r</sup> *Usser*. 101. *Justin*,  
l. III. c. 1. *Rollin*, IV. 2. *Univ. Hist.* V. 253.  
<sup>s</sup> *Thucydides*, lib. I.



was the son of *Hamestris*, whom *Artaxerxes* sent with his army into *Egypt*.<sup>t</sup>

*Achæmenides* being arrived in *Egypt* with his numerous army, encamped on the banks of the *Nile*. In the interim, the *Athenians* defeated the *Persian* fleet, and took or destroyed fifty of their ships; after which, they sailed up the *Nile*, and landed their forces under the command of *Charitimus* their general, who joined *Inarus* and the *Egyptians*. The united forces fell on *Achæmenides*, and overthrew him in a great battle, wherein a hundred thousand *Persians* were killed, and among them *Achæmenides* himself. The remainder fled to *Memphis*, where they were pursued by the conquerors, who immediately made themselves masters of two parts of the town: but the *Persians* secured themselves in the third, called the *White Wall*, which was by much the largest and the strongest part, and there suffered a siege of near three years; during all which time, they valiantly defended themselves against their assailants, till at length they were succored by those who were sent to their relief.<sup>u</sup>

When *Artaxerxes* received an account of the defeat of his army in *Egypt*, and what part the *Athenians* bore in the effecting of it, in order to divest their forces from being thus employed against him, he sent an ambassador to the *Lacedæmonians*, with great  
sums

<sup>t</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 204.]

<sup>u</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 204.

sums of money, to induce them to make war upon the *Athenians*:<sup>w</sup> but they not being by any means to be wrought to it, *Artaxerxes* resolved to endeavour this diversion another way, by sending himself an army into *Attica* with *Themistocles* at the head of it; which he thought could not fail of making them recall their forces out of *Egypt*, because then they would need them at home for their own defence. This expedition was frustrated by *Themistocles*, who put an end to his life, to avoid the command.

However, *Artabazus* governor of *Cilicia*, and *Megabyzus* governor of *Syria*, were ordered to get ready an army for the relief of those who were besieged in the *White Wall*, and for carrying on the *Egyptian* war.<sup>x</sup>

These generals soon raised an army of 300,000 men in *Cilicia* and *Phœnicia*; but were obliged to wait till the fleet was equipped, which was not till the next year, when *Artabazus* took the command of it, and set sail for the *Nile*; while *Megabyzus* marched the army over land to *Memphis*, where he raised the siege, and afterwards fought *Inarus*. All the forces on both sides engaged in this battle, in which *Inarus* was totally defeated: but the chiefest slaughter fell upon the *Egyptians*. *Inarus* was wounded by *Megabyzus*, yet made his retreat with the *Athenian* auxiliaries, and as many of the *Egyptians* as would follow him to *Byblos*, a city in the island

D 3

*Prosopitis*,

<sup>w</sup> *Thucydides*, l. I.

<sup>x</sup> *Ibid*, l. I. *Prideaux*, l. 205.

*Profopitis*, which was surrounded by two arms of the *Nile*, and both navigable. The *Athenians* ran their fleet into one of these arms, where it was secured from the attacks of the enemy, and endured a siege of a year and a half in that island.

After the battle, all the rest of *Egypt* submitted to the conquerors, and returned again to their obedience under *Artaxerxes*, except *Amyrtaeus*, who still maintained a party against him in the fens, where he reigned many years. He was assisted by sixty sail of *Athenian* ships; and the *Persians* were never able to reduce him, by reason of the difficulty of access to those parts.

The siege of *Profopitis* was still carried on: but the *Persians* could make no advances in attacking it after the usual methods; because of the stratagems and intrepidity of the besieged; therefore, they had recourse to craft, which soon produced what force had not been able to effect. For having, by the making of many channels, drained that branch of the *Nile* in which the *Athenian* fleet had its station, they laid it on dry ground, and made a passage open for all their army to pass over into the island. In this desperate case, *Inarus*, with all his *Egyptians*, and about fifty *Athenians*, capitulated with *Megabyzus*, and surrendered upon condition that their lives should be spared. But the rest of the auxiliaries, who were about 6000,

put

put themselves on their defence; set their fleet on fire, and stood together in battle array; resolving to die sword in hand, and sell their lives as dear as they could, in imitation of those glorious *Spartans*, who refused to yield, and were all slain at *Thermopylae*. The *Persians* perceived their intent, and were unwilling to attack men who had taken so desperate a resolution. A peace was therefore offered them, on terms, that they should leave *Egypt*, and have a free passage into their own country, which way they should chuse for their return thither. These terms were accepted by the brave *Athenians*, who delivered the island with the city of *Byblos* to the *Persians*, and marched to *Cyrene*, where they took shipping for *Greece*: but the major part of those that went on this expedition perished in it.<sup>z</sup>

The *Athenians* sent another fleet of fifty ships, to assist their besieged countrymen; which was attacked, and defeated, by the *Persian* fleet, just after the *Athenians* had surrendered. Here ended the fatal war. carried on by the *Athenians* for six years in *Egypt*, which kingdom was then reunited to the *Persian* empire, and continued so during the rest of the reign of *Artaxerxes*, of which this was the twentieth year: but the prisoners who were taken in this war met with the most unhappy fate.<sup>a</sup>

*Sartamas*

<sup>z</sup> *Ibid.*      <sup>a</sup> *Rollin*, IV. 23.    *Tbucydides*, l. I.  
*Prideaux*, I. 244.    *Diodorus*, l. XI. c. xxi.

*Sartamas* was appointed governor of *Egypt*; and *Inarus* was carried prisoner to *Susa*, where he was crucified:<sup>b</sup> a barbarous breach of the terms of capitulation under which he surrendered; and the perfidy was still heightened by another act of great injustice; for all the *Athenians* who surrendered with *Inarus* were beheaded. *Artaxerxes* had been importuned to this breach of national faith by the solicitations of his mother, who, for five years together, intreated him to gratify her request, that she might sacrifice those unhappy men to the manes of *Achæmenes* her son. *Megabyzus* retired into *Syria*, and openly reviled on this account; which will be particularly mentioned in our *Persian* history.

XERXES II. succeeded his father *Artaxerxes*; but reigned only forty-five days. He was put to death by *SOGDIANUS* his illegitimate brother, who reigned only six months, and was killed by his brother *Ochus*.<sup>c</sup>

OCHUS assumed the name of *DARIUS*, and is commonly called *DARIUS NOTHUS*, or *Darius the Bastard*.<sup>d</sup> The greatest misfortune that befel this prince was the revolt of *Egypt*, which happened in the tenth year of his reign. The *Egyptians*, weary of the *Persian* government, flocked from

<sup>b</sup> *Tbucyd.* l. I. p. 72.  
*Prid.* l. 320.

<sup>c</sup> *Diod.* l. XII. c. vii.

<sup>d</sup> *Rollin.* IV. 148. *Prid.* l. 321.

from all parts to *Amyrtæus* of *Sais*, who sallied out of his fens, where he had reigned ever since the revolt of *Inarus* was suppressed. He soon drove the *Persians* out of *Egypt*, made himself king of it, and reigned there six years.<sup>e</sup>

AMYRTÆUS prepared to pursue the *Egyptians* as far as *Phœnicia*; and had concerted measures with the *Arabians*, to attack them in that country.<sup>f</sup> It seems most likely that *Darius* on this occasion came in person into *Phœnicia*,<sup>g</sup> where he had good success against the *Egyptians*: for *Amyrtæus* being dead, perhaps slain in battle, *Herodotus* tells us, his son *PAUSIRIS* succeeded him in the kingdom by the favour of the *Persians*; which argues, that before they granted him this, they had reduced *Egypt* again under them; otherwise *Pausiris* could not have been made king of it by their courtesy.<sup>h</sup> *Darius Notus* died, after a reign of 19 years, and gave the crown to *Arsaces*, his eldest son.<sup>i</sup>

Year of the  
world 3650.

Before Christ  
404.

ARSACES assumed the name of ARTAXERXES, to whom the *Greeks* gave the surname of *Mnemon*, which signifies one of a good memory.

In

<sup>e</sup> Prideaux I. 323.

<sup>g</sup> Prideaux I. 327.

Prideaux I. 338.

Prideaux I. 339.

<sup>f</sup> Rollin, IV. 152.

<sup>h</sup> Justin, l. V. c. 5.

<sup>i</sup> Rollin, IV. 288. XII. 215.



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In his reign, PSAMMITICHUS succeeded *Psufiris* in the government of *Egypt*.<sup>k</sup> He was descended from the famous *Psammitichus*, whose history we have already given.<sup>l</sup> He was a barbarous and ungrateful man, as appears by his treachery to his friend *Tamus*, which is all we know concerning this cruel prince.

His successor was NEPHEREUS, who sent a hundred gallies to assist the *Spartans* against the *Persians*.<sup>m</sup> ACHORIS succeeded *Nephereus*, and joined with *Euagoras* king of *Cyprus*, the *Arabians*, *Tyrians*, and *Barccans*, against the *Persians*. It was now thirty years since the *Egyptians* had shook off the *Persian* yoke under *Amyrtæus*, and upon every occasion had signalized their aversion to the *Persian* government. But when *Artaxerxes Mnemon* found himself disengaged from other quarters, he resolved to reduce the *Egyptians*, and accordingly made great preparations for that war.<sup>n</sup> *Achoris* foresaw the storm, and provided against it the best he could: He armed his own subjects, and drew a great number of *Greeks* and other mercenaries into his service, under the command of *Chabrias* the *Athenian*.<sup>o</sup> But before the war was commenced, *Achoris* died, and was succeeded by PSAMMUTHIS, who reigned only one year. His suc-

<sup>k</sup> *Prideaux* I. 343.

<sup>l</sup> See Vol. II. p. 208.

<sup>m</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 349.

<sup>n</sup> *Univ. Hist.* v. II. 102.

V. 284.

<sup>o</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 359.

successor was NEPHERITES, the last of the *Mendesian* race in *Egypt*: for after a reign of four months, he was succeeded by NECTANEBIS, the first of the *Sebennite* race, who reigned twelve years.<sup>p</sup>

When all things were ready for the *Egyptian* war, the *Persian* army was assembled at *Ace*, afterwards called *Ptolemais*, and now *Acon*, in *Palæstine*; and were there mustered to be 200,000 *Persians*, under the command of *Pharnabazus*; besides 20,000 *Grecian Mercenaries*, commanded by *Iphicrates* the *Athenian*; with a proportionable force by sea; for their fleet consisted of 300 gallies, and 200 ships, besides a vast number of victuallers and tenders, which followed to furnish both the fleet and army with all things necessary.<sup>q</sup> Their first attempt was upon *Pelusium*, which failed: but they succeeded in attacking the fortrefs at the *Mendesian* mouth of the *Nile*, which opened a way to *Memphis*, where the *Egyptians* assembled a numerous army, and kept the *Persians* from making any farther progress, till at length the *Nile*, in its proper season, overflowed all the country, and obliged *Pharnabazus* to withdraw his army again into *Phenicia*, with the loss of many men.<sup>r</sup>

About five years afterwards, the *Lacedæmonians* sent their king *Agesslaus* into *Egypt*,  
to

<sup>p</sup> *Ibid.*  
I. 361.

<sup>q</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 360.

<sup>r</sup> *Ibid.*

to solicit for succours against the *Thebans*.<sup>s</sup>

TACHOS succeeded *Nectanebis* in the kingdom of *Egypt*, and collected all the strength he could, to defend himself in it against the king of *Persia*, who still pursued his designs of recovering that kingdom again to his empire, notwithstanding he had so often miscarried in them.<sup>t</sup> He also sent into *Greece* to raise mercenaries, and prevailed with the *Lacedaemonians* to aid him with a body of forces under the command of *Agésilas*, who either out of fondness still to be at the head of armies, or else out of a greedy desire of gaining riches by it, gladly accepted of the employment; though it neither suited his age, which was above eighty, to be engaged in such an undertaking; nor the dignity of his person, thus to become a mercenary to the *Egyptian* king.<sup>u</sup> *Tachos* promised to make *Agésilas* generalissimo of all his forces: but when he was landed in *Egypt*, he was much despised by the *Egyptians*, who found him a little old man, ill cloathed, of a contemptible presence, and living without pomp and ceremony: whereas they expected to have seen a glorious majestic prince, which his great actions had represented him to be.<sup>w</sup> *Tachos* would allow

Age-

<sup>s</sup> *Ibid.* 362. *Plutarch, in Agésilao et Artaxerxe.*

<sup>t</sup> *Prideaux* l. 366.

<sup>u</sup> *Cornelius Nepos in Age-*

*silao.*

<sup>w</sup> *Ibid.*

*Agésilas* only the command of his mercenaries at land: he committed the charge of his fleet to *Chabrias* the *Athenian*: and reserved to himself the chief command over all.<sup>x</sup>

*Tachos* came to a resolution to march into *Phœnicia*; as he thought it more advisable to make that country the seat of war, than to expect the enemy in his own. The old *Grecian* king saw the ill consequence of this resolution, and advised him against it; telling him, that his affairs were not sufficiently established to admit of his removing out of his dominions, and that he should content himself with acting by his generals abroad. But *Tachos* despised this wise counsel, and expressed no less disregard for *Agésilas* on all other occasions; which so much incensed him, that he joined the *Egyptians*, who had taken arms against him during his absence in *Phœnicia*, and had placed his cousin *Nectanebus* on the throne.<sup>y</sup>

*Plutarch* condemns *Agésilas* as guilty of treachery, in thus turning his arms against the person into whose service he was hired. But *Agésilas* alledged in justification of himself, that he was sent to the assistance of the *Egyptians*; and that they having taken up arms against *Tachos*, he was not at liberty

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<sup>x</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 366.  
261.

<sup>y</sup> *Rollin*, vol. VI. p.

to serve against them, without new orders from *Sparta*. He dispatched expresses there, and received instructions to act as he should judge most advantageous to his country. He immediately declared for *Nectanebus*, and drove *Tachos* out of his kingdom, who thereon fled to *Sidon*, and from thence to the *Persian* court, where *Artaxerxes* not only forgave him his fault, but added to his clemency the command of the *Persian* troops against the *Egyptians*.<sup>z</sup>

*Tachos* was no sooner gone, but another from among the *Mendesians* set up in his stead against *Nectanebus*, and assembled an army of a hundred thousand thousand men to support his pretensions. *Agésilas* gave his advice to attack them, before they were exercised and disciplined. If that counsel had been followed, it had been easy to have defeated a body of people, raised in haste, and without any experience in war: But *Nectanebus* imagined, that *Agésilas* intended to betray him, as he had done *Tachos*; and gave his enemy time to discipline his troops, who soon after compelled him to retire into one of his fortified towns, where he was besieged. The besiegers were attacked and defeated by *Agésilas*, who afterwards conducted all the operations of the war with

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x *Ibid.* 262, *Prideaux* I. 366.

so much success, that the *Mendesian* prince was always overcome, and at last taken prisoner.<sup>a</sup>

When *Agefilaus* had settled *Nectanebus* in full and quiet possession of the kingdom, he returned homeward in the ensuing winter; having been presented by *Nectanebus* with 220 talents, all which he liberally distributed among his *Spartan* troops: but he was drove by contrary winds on the *African* shore, at a place called the haven of *Menelaus*, where he sickened and died in the eighty fourth year of his age, and the 41st of his reign.<sup>b</sup>

*Artaxerxes Mnemon* died soon afterwards, in the 94th year of his age, and the 46th of his reign. His death was occasioned by grief, at seeing several conspiracies formed against him by his own children, who destroyed each other to obtain the crown.<sup>c</sup>

OCHUS succeeded his father *Artaxerxes Mnemon*, and assumed the name of *Artaxerxes*. He was the most cruel and wicked of all the princes of his race; and he meditated in earnest the reduction of *Egypt*, which had long pretended to maintain itself in independance: but as he observed, that the *Egyptian* war was always un-

Year of the  
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Before Christ  
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<sup>a</sup> *Ibid.* 263, 367.  
*in Agefilaus.*

<sup>b</sup> *Plutarch. Cornel. Nepos.*

<sup>c</sup> *Prid.* 369.



successful from the ill conduct of the generals sent there, he resolved to take the care of it upon himself.<sup>d</sup>

The *Phœnicians* and *Cypriots* confederated with the *Egyptians* against the *Persians*: but *Ochus* took *Sidon*, and detached the *Phœnicians* and *Cypriots* from their alliance with *Nectanebus*, who was left to defend *Egypt* against all the force of *Persia*. When *Ochus* had taken all his measures, and made the necessary preparations to invade *Egypt*, he repaired to the frontiers of *Phœnicia*, where he put himself at the head of his army, which consisted of 300,000 foot, and 30,000 horse, besides 10,000 *Greeks*, upon whom *Ochus* relied more than upon the whole army of the *Persians*. Upon his arrival, he encamped before *Pelusium*, from whence he detached three bodies of troops, each of them commanded by a *Grecian* and a *Persian*, with equal authority. The first was under *Dachares*, the *Theban*; and *Rofaces*, governor of *Lydia* and *Ionia*. The second was given to *Nicostratus*, the *Argive*; and *Aristazanes*, one of the great officers of the crown. The third had *Mentor*, the *Rhodian*; and *Bagoas*, the Eunuch, who was an *Egyptian* by birth. Particular orders were given to each detachment: but the king, with the main body of the army, remained in the camp he had made choice of at first, to wait events,

<sup>d</sup> *Ibid.* 372.

events, and be in readiness to support those troops in case of ill success, or to improve the advantages they might have.<sup>e</sup>

*Nectanebus*, had sufficient notice from these preparations against him, to provide for his defence. He assembled an army of 100,000 men; of which 20,000 were mercenaries out of *Greece*, as many out of *Lybia*, and the rest *Egyptians*. With some of these he garrisoned his frontier towns; and with others guarded those passes, through which the enemy was to enter into the country. The first detachment of the *Persians* besieged *Pelusium*, which was defended by 5000 *Greeks*. While this siege was carrying on, *Nicostratus* put his detachment on board a squadron of the *Persian* fleet, of eighty ships that attended him, sailed up through one of the channels of the *Nile* into the heart of the country, landed his forces there, and strongly encamped in a convenient place. All the *Egyptian* troops in these parts were immediately drawn together under *Clinias*, a *Greek* of the isle of *Cos*, and prepared to repel the enemy. A very warm action ensued, in which *Clinias* was killed, with 5000 of his troops, and the rest were entirely dispersed.<sup>f</sup>

This action determined the whole fate of the war: for *Nectanebus* apprehended, that *Nicostratus* would proceed up the *Nile* to

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<sup>e</sup> *Ibid.* 374.

<sup>f</sup> *Ibid.*

*Memphis*; therefore, he made all the haste he could to defend it, and left those passes into his country open, which it was his chief interest to have defended. When the *Grecians*, who garrisoned *Pelufium*, heard of this retreat, they gave all for lost, and capitulated with *Lachares*, on honourable terms: while the third detachment of the *Persians* found the passes unguarded, and entered the country without opposition.<sup>g</sup>

*Nectanebus* then lost all hope of defence, and escaped, with all the treasure he could collect, into *Ethiopia*; from whence he never returned. He was the last *Egyptian* that ever reigned in this country; it having been ever since enslaved to strangers, according to the prophecy of *Ezekiel*.<sup>h</sup>

When *Ochus* had thus made an absolute conquest of *Egypt*, he dismantled their chief cities, plundered their temples, and returned triumphantly to *Babylon*, loaded with vast treasures of gold and silver, and other spoils obtained in this war. He left *Pherendates*, one of his nobles, governor of *Egypt*: and here *Manetho* ends his commentaries, which he wrote of the *Egyptian* affairs.<sup>i</sup>

Besides dismantling the cities, violating the temples, and pillaging the houses, *Ochus* took away all the archives of the kingdom,

<sup>g</sup> *Ibid.* 374.

<sup>i</sup> *Synellus*, p. 256.

<sup>h</sup> *Ibid.* *Ezek.* xxix. 14, 15.

dom, which had been spared by *Cambyfes* : And, like him, he caused the god *Apis* to be killed ; that is, the sacred bull, which the *Egyptians* worshiped under that name. What gave occasion to this last action was, that *Ochus* being as lazy as he was cruel, the *Egyptians* surnamed him *the Ass* : which enraged him so much, that he said, he would make them sensible, he was not an ass, but a lion ; and that the ass they despised, should eat their ox. Accordingly, he ordered *Apis* to be dragged out of his temple, and sacrificed to an ass : after which, he made his cook dress the sacred bull, and serve him up to the officers of his household. This piece of wit incensed *Bagoas*, the favourite *Egyptian* eunuch, who always retained a love for his native country, and a zeal for its religion. When his master conquered *Egypt*, he flattered himself, that it would have been in his power to restrain the brutality of *Ochus*, who acted a thousand things which *Bagoas* saw with extreme sorrow, and always violently resented in his heart. As for the archives, he redeemed them, and sent them back : but the affront which had been done to his religion was irreparable, and could be satisfied only by the death of the king.

*Ochus* abandoned himself to pleasure and luxury ; and died of poison given him by *Bagoas*, after a reign of 23 years. *Bagoas* had the direction of all the provinces of the  
up-

upper *Asia*, and his revenge was not glutted with the death of *Ochus*. He caused another body to be interred, instead of the remains of that king, which he cut in small pieces, and gave to cats; in revenge for what *Ochus* had done to the *Apis*: besides, he turned the bones of the poisoned king into handles for knives and swords, the natural symbols of his cruelty.<sup>k</sup> This was the same year that *Philip* king of *Macedon* defeated the *Athenians* and *Thebans* at the famous battle of *Cheronea*.<sup>l</sup>

ARSES, the youngest son of *Ochus*, succeeded him in the throne, where he was placed by *Bagoas*, in whose hands all the power lay, and who had put all the other sons of *Ochus* to death. *Arjes* was only a nominal king; for *Bagoas* reserved to himself the whole power of the sovereign authority; and soon after assassinated the young prince, in whose room he placed *Darius* upon the throne.<sup>m</sup>

DARIUS III. whose true name was *Codomannus*, was of the blood royal, as descended from *Darius Nothus*.<sup>n</sup> This prince put *Bagoas* to death, and thereby became thoroughly settled in the kingdom.

*Egypt*

<sup>k</sup> *Prideaux* I. 377. *Rollin* VI. 300.

<sup>l</sup> *Leland's life of Philip of Macedon*, V. II. 268.

<sup>m</sup> *Rollin* VI. 300. *Prideaux* I. 377. <sup>n</sup> *Prid.* 308.

*Egypt* was still a province of *Persia*, till *Alexander the Great* subverted that monarchy, and was received by the *Egyptians* with open arms, as their deliverer from the *Persian* tyranny.

*Darius III.* is represented as a prince of a mild and generous disposition, of great personal valor, and far preferable to any of the whole *Persian* empire for his stature and shape: but, with all his good qualities, he was not able to encounter such a fortunate rival as *Alexander the Great*; and he was scarce seated on the throne, when he found this mighty enemy preparing to drive him from it.<sup>o</sup>

*Philip* king of *Macedon*, by obtaining the battle of *Cheronea*, may be said to have enslaved *Greece*. *Macedon* at that time, with no more than 30,000 soldiers, gained a point, which *Persia*, with millions of men, had unsuccessfully attempted at *Platæa*, *Salamis*, and *Marathon*. When *Philip* had made himself arbiter of *Greece*, he prepared to revenge the injuries which it had received from the *Barbarians* during the space of 300 years. With this view, a war against the *Persians* was resolved on in a general assembly of the *Amphiſtyons*; and *Philip* was appointed commander in chief of the forces destined for this expedition: but, before he could put  
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this mighty project in execution, he was murdered by *Pausanias*, in the midst of all the pomp and festivity which he had made to celebrate the nuptials of his daughter *Cleopatra*, with *Alexander* king of *Epirus*, and brother to *Olympias* his queen.<sup>p</sup> This happened the same year that *Artaxerxes Ochus* died : and *Philip* was succeeded by his son *Alexander the Great*, who was then twenty years of age.<sup>q</sup>

DARIUS and ALEXANDER began to reign the same year : but the passion that appeared most in *Alexander*, even from his tender years, was ambition, and an ardent desire of glory.<sup>r</sup> After punishing several barbarous nations, and also the *Thebans*, the terror of his arms made all things give way before him in *Greece*. He then called the general council of all the states and free cities of *Greece* to meet at *Corinth*, to obtain from them the supreme command against the *Persians*, as had been granted his father a little before his death.<sup>s</sup> No diet ever debated on a more important subject. It was the western world deliberating upon the ruin of the east, and the methods for executing a revenge suspended more than an age.

<sup>p</sup> *Diod. lib. XVI. c. 16. Justin, l. IX. c. 7. Leland's life and reign of Philip, king of Macedon, v. II. 304.*

<sup>q</sup> *Rollin, VII. 86, 109. XII. 219. Diod. lib. XVII. c. 1.*

<sup>r</sup> *Plutarch in Alex. Diod. l. XVII. c. 1.*

<sup>s</sup> *Prideaux, l. 379.*

age.<sup>t</sup> The immortal retreat of the ten thousand *Greeks*, notwithstanding the vigorous opposition of the prodigious army of the *Persians*; the terror which *Agefilaus*, with a small body of men, had struck even as far as *Susa*; shewed plainly what might be expected from an army, composed of the flower of the forces of all the cities of *Greece*, and those of *Macedon*, commanded by generals and officers formed under *Philip*; and, above all, led by *Alexander*. The deliberations of the assembly were therefore very short; and that prince was unanimously appointed generalissimo against the *Persians*: though the *Lacedæmonians* at first refused their consent.

In the spring of the next year, *Alexander* collected his forces together, marched with them to *Sestus*, and there passed the *Hellepont* into *Asia*. His army, according to the highest account, amounted to no more than 30,000 foot, and 4500 horse: but with this small army he attempted, and also accomplished, the conquest of the whole *Persian* empire, and added *India* to his acquisition. What was most remarkable in this undertaking was, that he set out on it only with seventy talents; which was scarce sufficient to furnish the army with provisions for thirty days;

<sup>t</sup> *Rollin*, VII. 116, 117.

days; as, at the highest reckoning, it comes to no more than 14,437l. 10s. sterling. For the rest he wholly cast himself upon providence, and providence did not fail him herein.<sup>u</sup>

When *Alexander* arrived on the banks of the *Granicus*, a river of *Phrygia*, he was opposed by the *Persian* governors, with an army of 100,000 foot, and 10,000 horse, which he attacked, and defeated, with the loss only of 39 men; though the *Persians* had 10,000 foot, and 2000 horse killed, besides 20,000 prisoners taken in this engagement.<sup>w</sup> *Alexander* then took *Sardis*, the bulwark of the *Persian* empire next the sea; *Ephesus*, *Miletus*, and *Halicarnassus*, though defended by *Memnon*; *Celæna*, and *Gordion*, the capital of *Phrygia*.<sup>x</sup> *Memnon* died, and *Darius* commanded his army in person: it was assembled at *Babylon*, and amounted to 400,000 foot, and 100,000 horse. *Alexander* immediately marched into the provinces of upper *Asia*, most of which had submitted to him: he entered the pass of *Cilicia*, and took *Tarsus*.<sup>y</sup> The gods, says *Arrian*, blinded the eyes of *Darius*, that he might rush down the precipice they had prepared for him,  
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<sup>u</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 379. *Rollin*, VII. 123.

<sup>w</sup> *Diod.* XVII. c. 2. *Quintus Curtius*, lib. II. p. 19. edit. 1680. *Rollin* says, the *Persians* had 20,000 foot, and 2500 horses killed. VII. 128. <sup>x</sup> *Quint.*

*Curt.* I. III. p. 23.

<sup>y</sup> *Diod.* I. XVII. c. 3.

*Justin*, I. XI. 2. *Curt.* I. III.

and thereby make way for the destruction of the *Persian* monarchy. Both armies met and engaged near *Issus*, in *Cilicia*, where the *Persians* were defeated, with the loss of 120,000 foot, and 10,000 horse; though the *Macedonians* lost only 300 foot, and 150 horse.<sup>z</sup> *Darius* escaped: but his queen, his children, and his mother, were taken prisoners; to whom the conqueror acted like a husband, a father, and a son.<sup>a</sup> We are to remember, that *Alexander* was young, victorious, and free; that is, not engaged in marriage, as has been observed on the first *Scipio*, on the like occasion.<sup>b</sup>

*Damascus*, and most of the cities of *Syria*, surrendered to the conqueror, who obtained all the treasures and other rich stores which *Darius* had deposited in *Damascus* as a place of security. Thus all the gold and silver designed to pay so great an army, together with whatever the long prosperity and frugality of so many kings had amassed, during many ages, was abandoned to the conqueror, who directed his march towards *Egypt*, instead of pursuing *Darius* in the plains of *Babylon*.

*Syria* and all *Phœnicia* submitted to *Alexander*, except *Tyre*, which was justly intitled

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<sup>z</sup> *Rollin* VII. 129, 157. *Died.* l. XVII. c. 3.

<sup>a</sup> *Plutarch*, in *Alex.*

<sup>b</sup> *Valer. Maximus*,

l. IV. c. 3.

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the queen of the sea, that element bringing to it the tribute of all nations. *Alexander* desired to enter this city, that he might offer a sacrifice to *Hercules*, its tutelar god : but the *Tyrians*, who were attached to *Darius*, refused him admission ; upon which *Alexander* resolved to force them to it by a siege. The victor had essential reasons to possess himself of *Tyre* ; for he was sensible he could not invade *Egypt* easily, while the *Persians* were masters of the sea. *Tyre* was at that time seated in an island of the sea, about half a mile from the continent ; and was surrounded with a strong wall, 150 feet in height, which the waves of the sea washed. *Alexander* began to throw up a mole in the sea, which should reach from the continent to the island. The *Tyrians* contemptuously asked the workmen, “ whether *Alexander* was greater than *Nephtune* ; and if they pretended to prevail over that god ? ” <sup>c</sup> The astonishing pile was at last perfected : the *Tyrians* were invested on all sides ; and attacked at the same time both by sea and land. After sustaining a siege of seven months, it was taken by *Alexander*, who sold 30,000 of the inhabitants, and burnt the town to the ground. <sup>d</sup> Thus *Alexander* destroyed new *Tyre*, as *Nebuchadnezzar* had done the old : and thus was accom-

<sup>c</sup> *Quint. Curt.* l. iii. c. 14.  
*Quint. Curt.* l. iv. c. 5.

<sup>d</sup> *Diod.* xvii. c. 4.

complished the menaces which God had pronounced by the mouth of his prophets against Tyre.<sup>e</sup>

The bank, or causey, from the continent to the island is still remaining, even to this day; and of the same length as anciently described; that is, of half a mile; whereby what was formerly an island, at that distance from the shore, was thenceforth made a peninsula, and so it has ever since continued.<sup>f</sup>

From Tyre, *Alexander* marched to Jerusalem, firmly resolved to chastise the Jews; because they persisted in maintaining their oath of fidelity to *Darius*. But he spared the holy city of God, and offered sacrifices to him, in the temple, after the manner prescribed to him by the high priest,<sup>g</sup> who shewed him those passages in the prophecy of *Daniel*, which are spoken of that monarch. This convinced *Alexander* that he had began this war under the immediate conduct of heaven, and that by him the Persian empire would be overthrown.<sup>h</sup> For those prophecies foretold the destruction of the Persian empire by a Grecian king.<sup>i</sup> Un-

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<sup>e</sup> Rollin, vii. 184. Prideaux, i. 385.

<sup>f</sup> Maundrel's journey from Aleppo to Jerusalem, p. 48—50.

<sup>g</sup> Josephus Antiq. b. xi. c. 8. p. 267.

<sup>h</sup> Prideaux, i. 385. Rollin, vii. 196.

<sup>i</sup> Daniel viii. xi.



der the image of a spotted leopard, with four heads and four wings, the prophet shadows *Alexander*, intermixed with good and bad qualities; rash and impetuous in his resolutions, rapid in his conquests; flying with the swiftness of a bird of prey, rather than marching with the weight of an army laden with the whole equipage of war; supported by the valour and capacity of his generals; four of whom, after having assisted him in conquering his empire, divided it among themselves.<sup>k</sup> From the ruins of his monarchy were to arise not only the four great kingdoms of *Egypt*, *Syria*, *Asia minor*, and *Macedon*; but also several other foreigners, or barbarians, should usurp its provinces, and form kingdoms out of these.<sup>l</sup> *Isaiab* prophesied the victories of *Cyrus*, and *Daniel* those of *Alexander*; the two most famous conquerors that ever existed; the one founder, the other destroyer, of the powerful *Persian* monarchy.

*Alexander* marched from *Jerusalem* to *Gaza*, which was the only pass into *Egypt*, and was defended by *Betis* the eunuch, who made a gallant defence for two months: but the place was then taken by assault, and the inhabitants either put to the sword, or sold  
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<sup>k</sup> *Daniel* vii. 4, 5, 6.

<sup>l</sup> *Ibid.* xi. 4. viii. 1.—8.

for slaves. The victorious monarch left a garrison in *Gaza*; and then turned the whole power of his arms towards *Egypt*, which submitted to him without any opposition; because the *Persians* had impiously violated their holy rites, and ruled over them very tyrannically.<sup>m</sup>

*Sabaces*, the governor of *Egypt*, was slain in the battle of *Iffus*; and *Amintas* pretended that he was appointed his successor in that government. This *Amyntas* had deserted from *Alexander* to *Darius*, and commanded the *Greeks* at *Iffus*, from whence he fled to *Egypt* with 4000 men, and seized *Pelusium*. He then made public pretensions to the crown of that kingdom, declaring, that he came to expel the *Persians*. He was soon joined by a multitude of *Egyptians*, and marched to *Memphis*, where he defeated the *Persians*, and shut them up in that capital: but his soldiers straggled about in search of plunder, and were cut to pieces by frequent sallies from the garrison. This event increased the aversion the *Egyptians* had for the *Persians*; so that the moment *Alexander* appeared before *Pelusium*, the *Egyptians* ran in crowds to submit to him, and they all declared openly in his favour.<sup>n</sup>

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<sup>m</sup> *Diod.* l. xvi. c. 5. *Quint Curt.* l. iv. 6. *Justin*, l. xi. c. 11, <sup>n</sup> *Ibid.* *Prideaux*, i. 388. *Rollin*, vii. 206.

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*Mazæus*, or *Aslaces*, commanded for *Darius* at *Memphis*, where he found he could make no resistance against so triumphant an army: he therefore submitted to the conqueror, and gave up 800 talents of gold,<sup>o</sup> with all the royal furniture; whereby *Alexander* became master of all *Egypt*, without any farther opposition.<sup>p</sup>

When *Alexander* was at *Memphis*, he projected a journey to the temple of *Jupiter Ammon*, which was situated among the sands and deserts of *Lybia*, at the distance of 200 miles from *Egypt*. *Ham*, the son of *Noah*, as he was the first planter of *Egypt* and *Lybia*, so he became the great god of those countries in the idolatrous ages. A temple was built in his honor in the midst of these deserts, upon a spot of firm land, about five miles broad, which formed a kind of island in a sea of sand.<sup>q</sup> He was the same whom the  
*Greeks*

<sup>o</sup> This is calculated at 140,000*l.* in *Rollin*: but it amounts to 2,800,000*l.* sterling.      <sup>p</sup> *Diod.* xvii.

c. 5. *Quint. Curt.* iv. c. 7. p. 75. *Justin*, l. xi. c. 11.

<sup>q</sup> *Plin.* l. v. c. 9. *Diodorus*, l. xvii. c. 5. has given a particular description of this sport, and of *Alexander's* journey to the temple. *Lucan* has taken his description of it from *Diodorus*; it is in the ix book of the *Pharsalia*, where the poet describes the march of *Cato* through the deserts of *Lybia*, in which is a beautiful digression concerning the temple of *Jupiter Ammon*, as follows:

Now to the sacred temple they draw near,  
Whose only altars *Lybian* lands revere;

*There,*

Greeks called *Jupiter*, and the Egyptians *Ammon*; but, as both names were afterwards put together, he was called *Jupiter Ammon*.<sup>1</sup> The motive of this journey was vain-glorious and impious, according to the religion of those times. *Alexander* had read in *Homer*, and other fabulous authors of antiquity, that most of their heroes were represented as sons of some deity; and aiming to be celebrated an hero like

There, but unlike the *Jove* by *Rome* ador'd,  
A form uncouth stands heav'n's almighty Lord.  
No regal ensigns grace his potent hand;  
Nor shakes he there the light'ning's flaming brand:  
But, ruder to behold, a *borned ram*  
Belies the God, and AMMON is his name.  
There, though he reigns unrival'd and alone,  
O'er the rich neighbours of the torrid zone;  
Though swarthy *Æthiops* are to him confin'd;  
With *Araby* the blest, and wealthy *Inde*;  
Yet no proud domes are rais'd, no gems are seen,  
To blaze upon his shrines with costly sheen:  
But plain and poor, and unprophan'd he stood,  
Such as, to whom our great forefathers bow'd.  
A God of pious times, and days of old,  
That keeps his temple safe from *Roman* gold.  
Here, and here only, through wide *Lybia*'s space,  
Tall trees, the land, and verdant herbage grace;  
Here the loose sands by plenteous springs are bound,  
Knit to a mass, and moulded into ground:  
Here smiling nature wears a fertile dress,  
And all things here the present God confess.

*Rowe's Lucan*, b. ix. v. 872—895.

<sup>1</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 389.

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like them, he would also be thought the son of a God. Accordingly, having chose *Jupiter Ammon* to be his father in this farce, he sent messengers before to consult the priests, to cause him to be declared the son of that God by their oracle, when he should come to consult it, and then followed after to receive the honor of that declaration.<sup>s</sup>

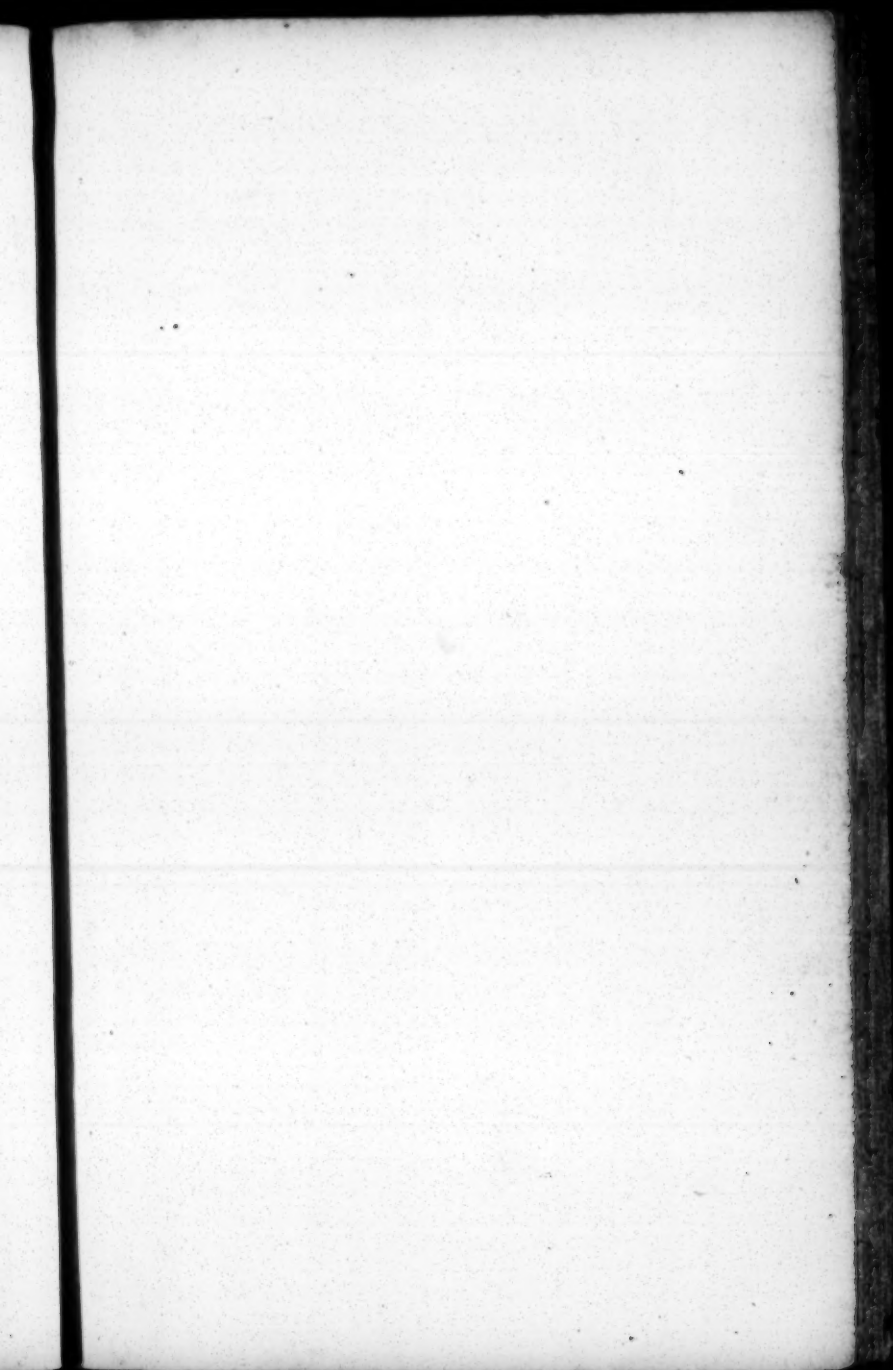
*Alexander* went down the river from *Memphis*, and in his passage received the submission of the *Cyreneans*.<sup>t</sup> As he observed a place opposite to the island of *Pharos*, which he thought a very convenient place for a new city, he determined to build one there, which should be called after his own name. He himself drew the plan of it, and marked out the several places where the temples and public squares were to be erected. He employed *Dinocrates* to build it, and it soon became the capital of *Egypt*. As it had a very convenient port, with the *Mediterranean* on one side, and the *Nile* and the *Red-sea* in its neighbourhood, it drew all the traffic of the east and west, and thereby became one of the most flourishing cities in the world.<sup>u</sup>

When *Alexander*, after a long and dangerous passage, of near 200 miles through sandy desarts,

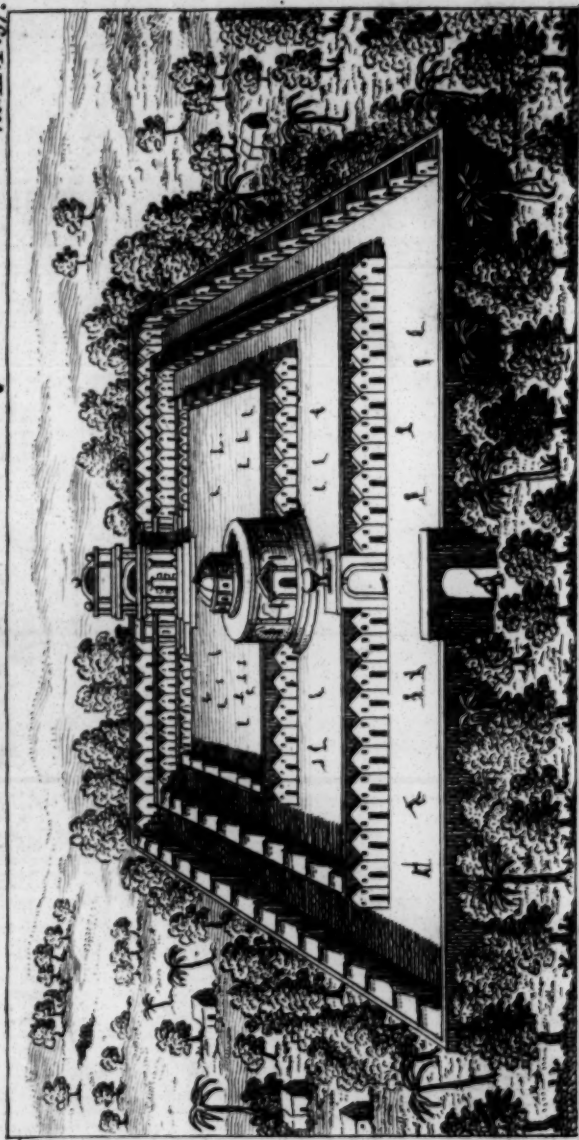
<sup>s</sup> *Ibid.* Rollin, vii. 207. *Justin*, l. xi. c. 11.

<sup>t</sup> *Diod.* l. xvii. c. 5.

<sup>u</sup> *Ibid.* *Prideaux* I. 389. In vol. II. of this work, p. 112—121, this city of *Alexandria* is particularly described.







*The Temple of JUPITER-AMMON, in the Desert of Lybia.*

desarts, arrived at the temple, he paid his devotions there, and received from the oracle the declaration he wanted. He then returned in great triumph with that title, and thenceforth in all his letters, orders, and decrees, stiled himself, KING ALEXANDER SON OF JUPITER AMMON; and gave out, that this god begot him on *Olympias* his mother, in the shape of a serpent.<sup>w</sup> He at length affected to be thought a god himself, till, in the conclusion, when providence had no more for him to do, his death shewed him to be a mortal like other men.<sup>x</sup>

*Alexander* in his return came again to *Alexandria*, and took care to people his new city with colonies drawn thither from many other places, among which were many of the *Jews*, to whom he gave great privileges; not only allowing them the use of their own laws and religion, but also admitting them equally into the same franchises and liberties with the *Macedonians* themselves, whom he planted there. He departed from thence, and wintered at *Memphis*, where he settled all his affairs in *Egypt*, and then returned with his army into *Syria*.<sup>y</sup>

*Alex-*

<sup>w</sup> There is a particular account of what passed between *Alexander* and the priests, in *Diodorus*, l. xvii. c. 5.

<sup>x</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 390.

<sup>y</sup> *Ibid.* *Diod.* l. xvii. 5.

*Alexander* marched into *Asia*, and crossed the *Euphrates* and *Tigris*, to meet *Darius*, who had in vain offered terms of peace, and had therefore assembled a more numerous army than before at *Babylon*. While *Alexander* encamped on the banks of the *Tigris*, there happened an eclipse of the moon, which so terrified the *Macedonians*, that they refused to proceed in their march; crying out, that heaven displayed the marks of its anger; that they were dragged, against the will of the gods, to the utmost extremities of the earth; and that even the moon refused to lend them her usual light. *Alexander* thereupon summoned the principal officers into his tent, and commanded the *Egyptian* soothsayers to declare what they thought of this phenomenon. These were well acquainted with the natural causes of eclipses: but, without entering into such enquiries, they replied, that the sun was predominant in *Greece*, and the moon in *Persia*; whence, as often as the moon suffered an eclipse, some great calamity was thereby portended to the latter. This answer revived the hopes and courage of the soldiers, and *Alexander* continued his march.<sup>z</sup> *Darius* was encamped at *Gaugumela*, in a large plain, near the city of *Arbela*, where a battle was fought, on which depended the empire of  
of

<sup>z</sup> *Quint. Curt.* l. IV. *Usser. Annal.* p. 166.

of *Asia*. The *Persian* army consisted of seven hundred thousand men: but the *Macedonians* were not forty thousand; and yet they were again victorious. *Curtius* and *Arrian* describe this battle at length: the former says, the *Macedonians* lost only 300 men; and *Diodorus* says 500: the latter allows not a third of that number slain; whereas of the *Persians*, there fell 40,000, says *Curtius*; 30,000, according to *Arrian*; and 90,000 if we believe *Diodorus*.<sup>a</sup> *Darius* fled into *Armenia*, and *Media*; while *Alexander* took *Arbela*, *Babylon*, *Susa*, and *Persepolis*, where he acquired immense treasures. *Darius* was murdered by *Bessus*, who was put to death for it by *Alexander*. Thus died *Darius* in the 50th year of his Age, and 6th of his reign; in whom the *Persian* empire ended, after it had lasted from the first of *Cyrus*, 206 years, under 13 kings. *Alexander* wept when he surveyed the dead body of *Darius*, and honoured it with a magnificent funeral. Upon the death of *Darius*, all his commanders submitted to the conqueror, by whom they were restored to their former honors and employments.<sup>b</sup> *Alexander* saw himself in the quiet possession of all the *Persian* empire, which was thus transferred

<sup>a</sup> *Arrian* l. III. *Diod.* l. xvii. c. 6. *Quint. Curt.* l. IV. *Justin.* l. XI. c. 14.

<sup>b</sup> *Quint. Curt.* l. VII. *Diodorus*, l. XVII. c. 7, 9. *Justin.* XI. c. 14.

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ferred to the *Greeks*: and *Ptolemy* the astronomer, who was a native of *Alexandria*, from the building of that city, begins the reign of *Alexander* over the east.<sup>c</sup>

### ALEXANDER *the Great.*

Year of the world 3674.      *Alexander*, while he wintered  
Before Christ 330.      at *Memphis*, settled the affairs  
of *Egypt*. The military command he entrusted only with his  
\**Macedonians*, and divided the country into several districts, under each of which he placed lieutenants independant of each other; not thinking it safe to commit the whole power of that large and populous country in the hands of one man: But he placed the civil government wholly in *Doloaspes*, an *Egyptian*. His intentions were, that the country should still be governed by its own laws and usages; therefore he thought a native, who was best acquainted with them, the properest for this charge.<sup>d</sup> He also appointed *Cleomenes*, of *Naucratis*, a *Grecian* city in *Egypt*, to superintend the finishing of his new city *Alexandria*, who continued many years in that charge; and hence it is, that

<sup>c</sup> *Prideaux*, i. 393. *Uffer. Annal.* 171.

<sup>d</sup> *Arrian*, l. iii. 2. *Curt.* l. iv. c. 8. *Prideaux* i. 374. *Uffer, Annal.* 162.

that, in *Justin*, he is said to be the founder of that city.<sup>c</sup>

*Alexander* burnt the city and palace of *Persepolis* to the ground, in the heat of his carousals with *Thais* the famous *Athenian* courtezan. This was the metropolis of the *Persian* empire; and that, which of all others, bore the greatest enmity to *Greece*. This was done for the revenging of *Greece* upon the *Persians*, especially for the burning of *Athens* by *Xerxes*.<sup>f</sup> Thus, at the motion of a drunken strumpet, was destroyed, by this drunken king, one of the finest palaces in the world. That this of *Persepolis* was such, the ruins of it sufficiently shew, which are still remaining even to this day, at a place called *Chekel-Minar*, near *Shiras* in *Persia*. The name signifies in the *Persian* language, *Forty-Pillars*; and the place is so called, because such a number of pillars, as well as other stately ruins of this palace, are there still remaining at this time.<sup>g</sup>

As *Alexander* was securely possessed of *Persia*, *Babylonia*, and *Media*, he passed into *Hircania* to the *Caspian-Sea*; after which, he entered *Parthia*, *Drangiana*, and the country of *Paropamisus*. From thence he went into *Bactriana* and *Sogdiana*; and advanced as far as the river *Iaxartes*, called by *Quintus Cur-*

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tius

<sup>c</sup> *Ibid.* *Justin*, l. xiii. c. 4. <sup>f</sup> *Plutarch.* in *Alexandro.* *Q. Curt.* l. v. *Diod.* l. xvii. *Justin*, l. xi.  
<sup>g</sup> See the travels of *Herbert*, *Thevenot*, and *Chardin*.



*rius* the *Tanais*, the farther side of which was inhabited by the *Scythians*, whose country formed part of *Great Tartary*. After having thus gone through various countries, he crossed the river *Indus*, entered *India*, and advanced very near the *Ganges*, which he also intended to pass, had not his army refused to follow him. He therefore contented himself with marching to view the ocean, and went down the *Indus* to its mouth.<sup>h</sup>

*Alexander* subdued many nations in this march to *India*. His army consisted of 120,000 *Greeks* and *Persians*; and his fleet, which he had in the *Indus*, amounted to 2000 vessels of all sorts. He conquered *Porus*, and sailed down the *Indus* as far as the ocean; subduing the *Oxidracians*, *Mallians*, and all the nations in his way on both sides that river. When he had passed the mouth of the *Indus* into the southern ocean, and had carried his conquests to the utmost boundaries of the earth on that side, he reckoned that he had obtained all that he proposed; and therefore returning back to land, when he had given such orders as he thought fit for the settling of his *Indian* conquests, he sent *Nearchus*, with that part of the fleet which was fittest for the voyage, back again into the ocean, ordering

<sup>h</sup> *Arrian*, l. vi. *Q. Curt.* l. 9. c. 16. *Diod.* l. xvii. *Plutarch.* *Justin*, l. xii. c. 10.

ordering him to sail that way to the *Persian* gulph, and up through that into the *Euphrates*, to meet him at *Babylon*, where he marched his army over land. The way that he returned was through the southern provinces of *Persia*, where he lost a great part of his troops in the sandy desarts; and to this it was chiefly owing, that he did not bring back above a fourth part of the number which he first carried with him into *India*. The land and sea forces met at the mouth of the *Pisistigris*; for which *Alexander* offered sacrifices of thanksgiving to his Gods; and high honours were given to *Nearchus*, for his successful conduct of the fleet, in bringing it safe through so many dangers to that place.<sup>1</sup>

From *Macedonia* to the *Ganges* is computed at least 3300 miles: to which we should add the various turnings in his marches; first, from the extremity of *Cilicia*, where the battle of *Iffus* was fought, to the temple of *Jupiter Ammon* in *Lybia*; and his returning from thence to *Tyre*, a journey of 900 miles at least, and as much space for the windings of his march in different places: then, upon the whole, we shall find, that *Alexander*, in less than eight years, marched his army upwards of 5100 miles, without including his return to *Babylon*.

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<sup>1</sup> *Ibid. Usser. Annal.* p. 185, 194. 197.

We are obliged to confine ourselves here, to this short account of those countries through which *Alexander* passed; because the particulars must be reserved to his own life and reign, which will be properly connected with the general history of *Greece*.

*Alexander* first married *Roxana*, daughter of *Oxartes*, a noble *Persian*; and then *Statira*, the eldest daughter of *Darius*. His chief favorite *Hephestion* married *Drypetis*, the younger sister of *Statira*; and he also married about a hundred of the *Persian* ladies to others of his commanders and principal followers; for as these were the daughters of the prime nobility of the *Persian* empire, he hoped by these marriages to make such an union of the *Grecians* and *Persians* together, as should render them both as one nation under his empire. These nuptials were celebrated at *Susa*, with great pomp and solemnity, for five days together; and all the dowries of these ladies were paid by *Alexander*, who expended vast sums, on these and other such occasions, which were all supplied him out of the immense treasures of *Darius*: For out of them, he laid up in his treasury at *Ecbatana* an hundred and ninety thousand talents; which amounts to thirty five millions and a half of our money, according to its lowest computation: but, according to *Dr. Bernard's* computation, it comes to near forty millions sterling.

The

The soldiers disliked *Alexander* for his affecting the *Persian* manners and habit: but that which disgusted them most, was his ingrafting the new recruits, which he made out of the conquered countries, into the *Macedonian* militia; and the advancing of many *Persians* to places of honour and trust, both in the army, and in the provinces, equally with the *Macedonians*.

While he was at *Ecbatana*, in *Media*, he lost his favourite *Hephestion*, who contracted a fever by drinking too hard, which occasioned his death. *Alexander* then removed to *Babylon*, where he intended to fix the seat of his empire. But the greatest part of the time that he lay in *Babylon*, was spent in gratifying himself in the pleasures and luxuries of the place, especially in drinking, which he carried up to the utmost excess, spending sometimes whole days and nights in it, till at length he drank himself into a fever, of which, in a few days after, he died, in the same manner as *Hephestion* had done the year before.<sup>k</sup>

Here ended all the designs of this great and vain-glorious prince. Never had any man a greater run of success than he had, during the twelve years of his reign; in which time he subjected to him all the na-

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tions

<sup>k</sup> *Arrian* l. vii. *Plutarch*, in *Alexandro*. — *Q. Curt.* l. x. c. 5. *Diod.* l. xviii.

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tions and countries that lay from the *Adriatic-Sea* to the *Ganges*, the greater part of the then known habitable world.<sup>1</sup>

Year of the world 3681. *Alexander* was aged 32 years and 8 months; when he died. Before Christ, 323. *ARIDÆUS*, his natural brother, was declared king in his stead; and the regency of the kingdom was given to *Perdiccas*.

On the death of *Alexander*, the governments of the empire being divided among the chief commanders of the army, they all went to take possession of them, leaving *Perdiccas* at *Babylon* to take care of *Aridæus*, and direct for him the main affairs of the whole empire. *Aridæus* was an idiot; and his generals for some time contented themselves with the name of governors; but at length took that of Kings, as they had the authority from the first.<sup>m</sup>

As soon as they were settled in the provinces to which they were sent, they all fell to leaguings and making war against each other, till thereby, after some years, they were all destroyed to four. These were *PTOLEMY*, *CASSANDER*, *LYSIMACHUS*, and *SELEUCUS*, who divided the whole empire between them.

PTO-

<sup>1</sup> *Prideaux* I. 409. *Univ. Hist.* v. VIII. p. 658. *Usser. Annal.* 211.

<sup>m</sup> *Plutarch in Eumene.* *Justin* l. XIII. c. i. — 4. *Curt.* l. X. c. vii. — 10. *Diod.* l. XVII. *Usser. Annal.* 213.

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PTOLEMY had *Egypt, Lybia, Arabia, Palestine,* and *Cæle-Syria*. CASSANDER had *Macedon* and *Greece*. LYSIMACHUS had *Thrace*, and those parts of *Asia* as lay upon the *Hellespont* and the *Bosphorus*. And SELEUCUS had all the rest. Thus the prophecies of *Daniel* were exactly fulfilled, which foretold, that the great horn of the *Macedonian* empire, that is, *Alexander* being broken off, there should arise four other horns, that is, four kings of the same nation, who should divide his empire between them.<sup>n</sup> From this division begins the æra of the *Lagides*, or *Ptolemies*, in *Egypt*; which continued till the time of *Augustus Cæsar*.

<sup>n</sup> *Daniel* vii. 6. viii. 3.—23. xi. 4. *Uffer. Annal.*  
217.



## BOOK III. CHAP. VI.

*The THIRD PERIOD, which contains the reigns of the PTOLEMIES, or LAGIDES, kings of Egypt; comprehending 293 years.<sup>a</sup>*

Year of the  
World 3681.  
Before Christ  
323.

THE partition of the empire of *Alexander the Great* was not of any long duration, and hardly took place, if we except *Egypt*, where *Ptolemy* had first established himself, and on the throne of which he always maintained himself without acknowledging any superior. Nor was this partition fully regulated and fixed, till after the battle of *Ipsus* in *Phrygia*, wherein *Antigonus*, and his son *Demetrius*, were defeated, and the former lost his life. The empire of *Alexander* was then divided into four kingdoms, by a solemn treaty, as had been foretold by *Daniel*. The kingdom of *Egypt* had fourteen monarchs, including *Cleopatra*; after whose death, *Egypt* became

a

<sup>a</sup> See vol. II. p. 174.

a province of the *Roman* empire. All these princes had the common name of *PTOLEMY*, but each of them was likewise distinguished by a peculiar surname: and they had also the appellation of *Lagides*, from *Lagus* the father of *Ptolemy* the first.<sup>b</sup>

*PTOLEMY Soter*, or *Lagus*, was the first of the *Macedonian* race who reigned in *Egypt* after *Alexander the Great*. He was a native of *Eordæa*, a small place in the province of *Mygdonia* in *Macedon*, and called *Lagides*, or the son of *Lagus*; but commonly believed to be the son of king *Philip*; <sup>c</sup> that prince having given *Arfinoe*, the daughter of *Meleager*, and mother of *Ptolemy*, in marriage, while she was big with child by him, to *Lagus*, a *Macedonian* of mean descent.<sup>d</sup> *Lagus* was unwilling to father the child of another man; and, as soon as his wife was brought to bed, exposed the new-born infant to be devoured by wild beasts, or perish with famine, according to the barbarous customs of those times. But, if we believe *Suidas*, an eagle was touched with that compassion which found no room in the breast of *Lagus*, and, with wonderful care and assiduity, performed all the duties of a fond parent; sheltering the helpless infant with his wings against

<sup>b</sup> *Rollin*, vol. VIII. p. 83.

<sup>c</sup> *Arrian*, l. I.

<sup>d</sup> *Quint. Curt.* l. ix. c. 8.

against the inclemency of the weather, and nourishing it with the blood of his prey instead of milk.<sup>e</sup> *Lagus* was so greatly affected with this miraculous adventure, which no doubt was invented and divulged for that end, that he looked upon it as an infallible prognostic of some extraordinary good fortune, and acknowledged the child for his son. Some writers will have it, that *Ptolemy* was of the royal family of *Macedon*, by his mother, who was nearly related to *Philip*, and that *Lagus* must have been a man of rank.<sup>f</sup> But others, without taking any notice of his pedigree, inform us, that he served first under *Philip*; and afterwards under *Alexander*, in the capacity of a common soldier; and was raised by the latter to a chief command in the army, for his gallant behaviour.<sup>g</sup> *Ptolemy* himself seems to have preferred the name of *Lagides*, or the son of *Lagus*, to all other appellations; since he transmitted it with his own to all his descendants, who from him are called *Ptolemæi Lagides*, or the *Ptolemies* descended from *Lagus*.

Whatever was the descent of *Ptolemy*, all the ancients, who write of those times, give him a most extraordinary character.

He

<sup>e</sup> *Univ. Hist.* v. ix. p. 362.  
<sup>g</sup> *Justin*, l. xlii.

<sup>f</sup> *Theophylus Anti-*

He was one of the chief favourites of *Alexander*, who reposed the greatest trust in him; relying entirely on his wisdom, conduct, and courage, in the execution of his most important projects; for he attended him in all his expeditions, and distinguished himself in a very eminent manner in most of them. He was beloved by the king, and revered by the army. At the siege of *Harmatelia*, among the *Brachmans*, he had the misfortune to be wounded with a poisoned arrow, and must have died of his wound, if providence had not intervened in a very extraordinary manner, after all human remedies had proved unsuccessful. We are told, that while *Alexander* was one night lamenting the loss which he had reason to apprehend of so great a commander, he fell asleep, and dreamed that he saw a serpent, with an herb in his mouth, which told him the nature and efficacy of the plant, and where it grew. The next morning *Alexander* searched for, and found the herb, bruised it, and gave *Ptolemy* a potion of it, which restored him to perfect health.<sup>b</sup>

When he was appointed governor of *Egypt* upon the death of *Alexander*, he chose the city of *Alexandria* for the usual place of his residence; in which his example was followed

<sup>b</sup> *Diod.* l. xvii. c. 10. *Justin.* l. xii. c. 10.

followed by his successors. He also granted great privileges to all who settled there, whether *Greeks, Jews, or Egyptians*; by which means that City became one of the most wealthy and populous of the world.

This prince is commonly distinguished from the other *Ptolemies*, his successors, by the surname of *SOTER*, or *SAVIOUR*, which was first given him by the *Rhodians*, in consideration of his friendly offices towards them, while their metropolis was besieged by *Demetrius*, the son of *Antigonus*.<sup>i</sup> The *Rhodians* erected statues to *Ptolemy*, *Cassander*, and *Lisimachus*, who had greatly contributed to the preservation of the place. But to express their gratitude to *Ptolemy* above the rest, they sent some of their priests to consult the oracle of *Ammon*, if they should not worship him as a God? Being answered, that they might pay him divine honors, they consecrated to him a square grove in the city, inclosing it with a sumptuous portico, which was a furlong in length, and from him call'd *Ptolomeum*, or *Ptolemy's Portico*: and to perpetuate the memory of their deliverer in this war by another method, they gave him the appellation of *Soter*, that is, *Saviour*. However, some writers have imagined, that the surname of *Soter* was given him, for having saved *Alexander* in  
the

<sup>i</sup> *Univ. Hist.* v. ix. p. 364.

the city of the *Oxydracans*: but, in this particular, we choose, with the learned *Usher*, and the authors of the *Universal History*, to follow *Diodorus*.<sup>k</sup>

*Ptolemy* confederated with *Antigonus*, *Antipater*, and *Craterus*, against *Perdiccas* and *Eumenes*. *Perdiccas* assembled his forces in *Capadocia*, and deliberated with his friends, whether he should march immediately into *Macedonia*, against *Antipater* and *Craterus*; or else into *Egypt* against *Ptolemy*. Should he march first into *Macedonia*, the fear was, that *Ptolemy*, who had made himself very strong in *Egypt*, should take the advantage to seize all the *Greater Asia*. For the preventing of this, it was resolved not to leave *Ptolemy* at his back; but to reduce him first; and, after that, to carry the war into *Macedonia*; while *Eumenes* was left, with part of the army, to guard the *Asian* provinces against *Antipater* and *Craterus*.<sup>l</sup>

*Perdiccas* marched into *Egypt*, by the way of *Damascus* and *Palestine*. *Ptolemy* was ready to receive him: for, since his having entered on the Government of *Egypt*, he had managed all things there with that justice and benignity, that he had not only made himself strong in the affection of the *Egyptians*; but

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had

<sup>k</sup> *Ibid.* v. VIII. p. 183. *Diod.* l. XVII. c. x.

<sup>l</sup> *Diod.* l. XVIII. *Justin.* l. XIII. c. vi. *Plutarch.* et *Corn. Nep.* in *Eumene.* *Prideaux.* v. 1.





had drawn many others thither, who flock-  
ed to him out of *Greece*, and other coun-  
tries, to enjoy the benefit of so just and  
mild a government, which added great in-  
crease to his strength.<sup>m</sup> The army of *Per-  
diccas* were so well affected to *Ptolemy*, that  
they went with great reluctance to make war  
against him, and many of them daily de-  
serted to him; all which made against *Per-  
diccas*, and at last ended in his ruin: for hav-  
ing unfortunately endeavoured to pass a  
branch of the *Nile*, which made an island in  
it opposite *Memphis*, he had a thousand of his  
men drowned in the attempt, and as many  
more devoured by the crocodiles; which so  
much incensed the *Macedonians*, that they  
mutinied, and slew him in his tent, with  
most of his friends and confidents. The  
next day after the death of *Perdiccas*, *Ptolemy*  
passed over the *Nile* into his camp, where he  
so effectually pleaded his cause before the  
*Macedonians*, that he turned them all over to  
him.<sup>n</sup>

All this time, the corpse of *Alexander* was  
deprived of burial. The *Egyptians* and  
*Chaldeans* had embalmed it after their man-  
ner; and *Arideus* was appointed to convey  
it to the temple of *Jupiter Ammon*.<sup>o</sup> Two  
whole years were employed in preparing for  
this

<sup>m</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 413.

<sup>n</sup> *Ibid.* 414.

<sup>o</sup> *Ælian*, l. XIII. c. xxx.  
*Rollin*, VIII. 54. 104.

*Prideaux*, I. 414.

this magnificent funeral; of which *Diodorus* gives the following description. He says, the whole business was managed as became the majesty of *Alexander*: that it exceeded all other funeral obsequies, in respect of expence, state, and pomp; that the charges amounted to many talents; and that, in respect of curiosity of workmanship, he conceived it necessary to recommend something to posterity concerning it.<sup>p</sup>

The coffin was of beaten gold, so wrought by the hammer as to answer to the proportion of the body: and it was half filled with aromatic drugs, which served as well to delight the sense, as to preserve the body from putrefaction. Over the coffin was a cover of gold; so exactly fitted, as to answer the higher part every way: and over this was thrown a curious purple coat, embroidered with gold; near to which were placed the arms of the deceased, that the whole might represent the acts of his life. Upon the top of the chariot, in which the body was to be conveyed, was raised a triumphant arch of gold, set thick and studded over with precious stones, eight cubits in breadth, and twelve in length. Under this roof was placed a throne of gold, joined to the whole work; on which were carved the heads of goats; and to these were fastened golden rings, of two hands breadth in the diame-

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ter;

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ter; at which were hung little coronets of various beautiful colours, like so many flowers. Upon the top of the arch was a fringe of net-work, where hung large bells, whose sound might be heard at a great distance. On both sides the arch, at the corners, stood an image of Victory in gold, bearing a trophy. A peristhylium of gold, like a piazza, supported the arch-work; the chapiters of whose pillars were of *Ionian* workmanship. Within the peristhylium, by a thick net-work of gold, were suspended four tables; on the first of which was portrayed a chariot curiously wrought, representing *Alexander* sitting with a royal sceptre in his hand; surrounded by his body-guard, in complete armour; the *Macedonians* on one side, the *Persians* with battle-axes on the other; and before them stood the armour-bearers. In the second, were seen elephants completely harnessed, with a band of *Indians* seated on the fore part of their bodies; and on the hinder, another band of *Macedonians*, armed as in the day of battle. The third exhibited to the view several squadrons of horse ranged in military array: and the fourth represented ships preparing for a battle. At the entrance into the pavilion were golden lions that seemed to guard the passage. From the middle of every pillar, an acanthus of gold sprouted up in branches, spiring in slender threads to the chapiters.

Over

Over the arch, about the middle of the roof, a purple carpet was spread in the open air, on which was placed a vast crown of gold, in form of an olive coronet, which, by the reflection of the sun-beams, darted such an amazing brightness and splendor, that it appeared as a flash of lightening at a distance. Under the seats, or bottom of the whole work, ran two axletrees, about which moved four *Persian* wheels, whose spokes and naves were overlaid with gold, and the rounds plated over with iron. The extremities of the axletrees were made of gold, representing the heads of lions biting a dart. The chariot had four draught-beams, or poles, to each of which were harnessed four sets of mules, each sett consisting of four of those animals; so that this chariot was drawn by sixty-four mules. The strongest and largest of those creatures were chosen on this occasion; and they were adorned with crowns of gold, with collars enriched with precious stones and golden bells.<sup>2</sup>

It may easily be imagined, that, in so long a procession, the motion of a chariot loaded like this, would be liable to great inconveniences. Therefore, that the pavilion, with all its appendages, when the chariot moved in any uneven ways, might constantly continue in the same situation, notwithstanding the inequality of the ground, and the shocks that would be frequently unavoidable, a cylinder

was raised from the middle of each axletree, to support the pavilion; by which expedient the whole machine was preserved steady.<sup>r</sup> And, suitable to so stately a procession, a numerous body of workmen and pioneers attended it, to clear the way from all impediments.<sup>s</sup>

The chariot was followed by the royal guards, all magnificently arrayed in arms. The multitude of spectators at this solemnity is hardly credible: but they were drawn together as well by their veneration for the memory of *Alexander*, as by the magnificence of this funeral pomp, which had never been equalled in the world.

There was a current prediction, that the place where *Alexander* should be interred, would be rendered the most happy and flourishing part of the whole earth. The governors contested with each other, for the disposal of a body that was to be attended with such a glorious prerogative. The affection *Perdiccas* entertained for his country, made him desirous, that the corps should be conveyed to *Æge* in *Macedonia*, where the remains of its kings were usually deposited. Other places were also proposed; but *Egypt* had the preference, and *Ptolemy* determined to signalize his gratitude to *Alexander* on this occasion. He accordingly set out, with a numerous guard of his

<sup>r</sup> *Rollin* VIII. p. 128.

<sup>s</sup> *Diod.* I. XVIII. c. iii.

his best troops, to meet the procession, and advanced as far as *Syria*. When he had joined the attendants on the funeral, he prevented them from interring the corpse in the temple of *Jupiter Ammon*, as they had proposed: therefore it was first deposited in the city of *Memphis*, and afterwards conveyed from thence to *Alexandria*. *Ptolemy* raised a magnificent temple to the memory of this monarch, and rendered him all the honors which were usually paid to demi-gods and heroes by pagan antiquity. Upon which account, says *Diodorus*, “ he was deservedly honored, not only by men, but by the Gods themselves.”<sup>t</sup>

We have already mentioned, in our description of old *Alexandria*, the tomb of *Alexander*; how his body was taken out of the gold coffin, and placed in a coffin of glass; as also how *Julius Cæsar*, and *Augustus*, visited this tomb of *Alexander*, and paid the utmost veneration to his memory.<sup>u</sup>

*Leo the African*, who lived in the fifteenth century, relates that the tomb of *Alexander the Great* was still to be seen in his time; and that it was revered by the *Mohammedans*, as the monument of an illustrious king, and a great prophet.<sup>w</sup> But a modern traveller, who was at *Alexandria* in 1737, assures us, that “ this tomb

<sup>t</sup> *Diod.* l. XVIII. c. iii.

<sup>u</sup> See our VOL. II. p. 115.  
supplement to *Livy*, l. CXXXIII.

<sup>w</sup> *Freinshemius*, in his



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tomb is no longer to be seen; even the tradition of the people concerning it is entirely lost. I have sought without success for this tomb; I have in vain endeavored to inform myself about it. Such a discovery is perhaps reserved for some other traveller."<sup>x</sup> And another modern traveller, who was there the same year, informs us, that "as the *Mahometans* have a great regard for the memory of *Alexander*, so there have been travellers, who relate, that they pretended to have his body in some mosque: but, at present, they have no account of it."<sup>y</sup>

*Ptolemy* gratified *Arideus*, for bringing the remains of *Alexander* into *Egypt*, with the guardianship of the two young *Macedonian* kings.<sup>z</sup> *Eumenes* was defeated by *Antigonus*, at *Orcynium* in *Cappadocia*; at which time *Ptolemy* formed the resolution to make himself master of *Syria*, *Phœnicia*, and *Judæa*. Those provinces lay convenient for him, as well for the defence of *Egypt*, as for the invading from thence the island of *Cyprus*, which he had an eye upon. They were granted in the first partition of the empire to *Laomedon* the *Mytelenian*, who had possessed them from the death of *Alexander*, without any interruption or disturbance. *Ptolemy*,  
at

<sup>x</sup> Norden's travels into Egypt and Nubia. 8vo, Edit. 1757. vol. I. p. 34.      <sup>y</sup> Pocock.

<sup>z</sup> Prideaux I. 414.

at first, thought to have bought him out of them, and offered him vast sums for this purpose: but, as he could not prevail this way, he sent *Nicanor* with an army into *Syria* against *Laomedon*; while he invaded *Phœnicia* with a fleet. *Nicanor* defeated *Laomedon*, took him prisoner, and seized his country. *Ptolemy* had the same success by sea: so that he got possession of *Syria* and *Phœnicia*; which enlargement of his power was disliked both by *Antipater* and *Antigonus*.<sup>a</sup> However, the *Jews* refused to submit to this new master, and stood out against him for some time. *Ptolemy* marched into *Judæa*, and laid siege to *Jerusalem*; which he took by assault on their sabbath, when the *Jews* thought it a breach of their law even to defend themselves.<sup>b</sup> *Ptolemy* carried above an hundred thousand *Jews* as captives into *Egypt*: but he soon conceived so good an opinion of them for their fidelity to their former princes and governors, that he thought them fit for the highest trust; and therefore having chosen out of them thirty thousand of the strongest and best qualified for military service, he committed to them the garrisoning of those towns which were of the greatest importance to him to have well maintained; and he appointed the rest, at their desire,

to

<sup>a</sup> *Ibid.* 415.  
lib. XII. c. i.

<sup>b</sup> *Ibid.* 116. *Joseph. Antiq.*

to be with them in the same places, to supply them with necessaries : besides, as *Ptolemy* had also subjected *Cyrene* and *Lybia*, he placed several of them there, from whom descended the *Cyrenian Jews*.

On the death of *Antipater*, *Antigonüs* thought of seizing the whole partitioned empire. He was generalissimo of all the *Lesser Asia* ; and was opposed by *Polysperchon*, who succeeded *Antipater* as guardian of the *Macedonian* kings, and appointed *Eumenes* governor of the *Lesser Asia*, instead of *Antigonus*. *Eumenes* collected an army of 20,000 horse and foot, among whom were 3000 of the famous *Argyraspides*, or *silver-shielded* ; for *Alexander*, when they marched with him into *India*, gave them shields plated over with silver, as a mark of special honor to them.<sup>c</sup> With this army, he marched into *Syria* and *Phœnicia*, to dispossess *Ptolemy* of these provinces ; in which he was prevented by *Antigonus*,<sup>d</sup> who afterwards had him delivered into his hands by treachery, and thereby became master of all *Asia* from the *Hellespont* to the *Indus*. *Eumenes* was put to death ; and thus perished the wisest and the gallantest man of the age in which he lived.<sup>e</sup> *Selucus*, governor of *Babylon*, fled into *Egypt*, and saved his life under the protection of *Ptolemy*,

to

<sup>c</sup> *Justin.* lib. XII. c. vii.*Quint. Curt.* lib. 8. c. v.<sup>d</sup> *Died.* lib. XVIII.<sup>e</sup> *Prideaux.* l. 421. 423.

to whom he represented the formidable power of *Antigonus*, which occasioned a league against him between *Ptolemy*, *Lyfimachus*, and *Cassander*.<sup>f</sup>

*Antigonus* marched out of the east into *Syria* and *Phœnicia*, to dispossess *Ptolemy* of them, and make himself master of their naval force: but *Ptolemy* withdrew the shipping to *Egypt*, and *Antigonus* was fifteen months in reducing *Tyre*; after which, he built a fleet of 500 sail, that soon gave him the dominion of the seas. *Antigonus* then marched with one part of his army to oppose *Cassander* in the *Lesser Asia*; and left his son *Demetrius* with the other part, to defend *Syria* and *Phœnicia* against *Ptolemy*.<sup>g</sup>

*Ptolemy* reduced *Cyprus*; made a descent upon upper *Syria*, and then upon *Cilicia*, from whence he returned to *Egypt*, with great spoils, and many captives. He defeated *Demetrius* at *Gaza*; which gave him back *Phœnicia*, *Palestine*, and *Cœle-Syria*: but *Ptolemy* restored *Demetrius* all his equipage, tents, and furniture, with all his friends, and servants, without any ransom; which kindness was afterwards returned by *Demetrius*, when he had the same advantage of *Ptolemy*. *Seleucus* obtained of *Ptolemy* 1000 foot, and 300 horse, with which small force he

<sup>f</sup> *Diad.* l. XIX. *Justin.* l. XV. cap. i.

<sup>g</sup> *Prideaux*, l. p. 424.

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he recovered *Babylon* from *Antigonus*; <sup>h</sup> and from hence began the famous æra of the *Seleucidæ*, made use of all over the east, by *Heathens*, *Jews*, *Christians*, and *Mahometans*. <sup>i</sup>

*Ptolemy* sent *Cilles* to invade upper *Syria*, where he was defeated by *Demetrius*, who returned the favour which he had received from *Ptolemy* at *Gaza*. All *Phœnicia*, *Judæa*, and *Cæle-Syria*, returned again under the power of *Antigonus*: but *Ptolemy* carried with him most of the riches, and a great number of the inhabitants, into *Egypt*. <sup>k</sup> Those persons followed him voluntarily; because they had experienced his great clemency and humanity. *Ptolemy* was then much set upon making *Alexandria* the capital of *Egypt*, and offered great privileges and immunities to all who would come to inhabit the place; which brought great numbers there, and particularly of *Jews*, who enjoyed the benefit of a plentiful country, a secure protection, and many other advantages. *Hecataeus* the historian was then in *Egypt*, and composed a particular history of the *Jews*, from the information he had received among them of their laws, customs, and religion. <sup>l</sup>

*Ptolemy*

<sup>h</sup> *Died.* lib. XIX.

<sup>i</sup> *Prideaux* I. 426.

<sup>k</sup> *Joseph. Antiq.* lib. XII. c. i.

<sup>l</sup> *Prideaux*, I. p. 429.

*Ptolemy* besieged *Halicarnassus*, and *Demetrius* raised the siege; which brought on a treaty of peace between the confederated princes and *Antigonus*, whereby it was agreed, that *Ptolemy* should have *Egypt*, and the adjacent parts of *Lybia* and *Arabia*: but this agreement was soon broke, and the war renewed. *Ptolemy* secured all *Cyprus*; invaded *Pamphilia*, and *Lycia*; and took some islands in the *Ægean sea*. *Demetrius* came with a great fleet and army to dispossess *Ptolemy* of *Cyprus*. He marched to *Salamine*, the capital of the whole island, which was defended by *Menelaus* the brother of *Ptolemy*: but *Demetrius* defeated *Ptolemy* at sea, and added this large and rich island to the dominions of his father, who from that time assumed the title of king, and wore a crown.<sup>m</sup>

When the *Egyptians* heard that *Antigonus* and *Demetrius* had taken upon them the royal dignity, they also gave the same title to *Ptolemy*: and this example was followed by the other confederate princes, in their respective territories; in which they had till then usurped the royal authority.<sup>n</sup>

*Antigonus* assembled an army of 100,000 men in *Syria*, to invade *Egypt* by land; while *Demetrius* attacked it by sea. The army and fleet came both to *Gaza*, from whence *Deme-*

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*trius*

<sup>m</sup> *Ibid.* 437. *Diodorus*, l. XX. *Justin.* l. XV. c. 2.

<sup>n</sup> *Ibid.* *Rollin*, viii. 219.



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*trius* sailed to the *Nile*: but *Antigonus* met with great difficulties in passing the desert between *Palestine* and *Egypt*. The son could make no descent by sea; nor could the father make any better progress at land: for *Ptolemy* had well guarded all the mouths of the *Nile*; and all the passes and avenues on the frontiers. Therefore, *Antigonus* was forced to return back into *Syria* with disgrace; having lost great numbers of his men at land, and many of his ships at sea, in this unsuccessful expedition.<sup>o</sup>

*Ptolemy* wrote to *Lyfimachus*, *Cassander*, and *Seleucus*, of his success, and renewed the league with them against their common enemy; from which time he became firmly settled in his kingdom, and was never after any more disturbed in it. Here the beginning of his reign is placed by *Ptolemy* the philosopher, who from thence reckoned the years of it in his chronological canon: for, till now, he continued to compute by the years of *Alexander Ægus*, though he had been slain five years before. But this fortunate turn in favour of *Ptolemy*, and the firm settlement which he obtained thereby in the throne, gave him a new *Epocha* after that to go by; which took its beginning from the 7th of *November*, nineteen years after the death of *Alexander*.<sup>p</sup>

Thus all the generals who had served under *Alexander*, sacrificed to their ambition all his  
fa.

<sup>o</sup> *Ibid.* <sup>p</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 438. *Rollin* viii. 218.

family; his brother, his mother, his wives, his children, and even his sisters: so that there was nothing to be seen but fields of blood, and dreadful revolutions.

In the midst of so many disorders, some of the states of *Lesser Asia* freed themselves, and formed the kingdoms of *Pontus*, *Bithynia*, and *Pergamus*, where the goodness of the country made them rich and powerful. *Armenia* shook off the *Macedonian* yoke, at the same time, and became a great kingdom; while *Mithridates* founded that of *Cappadocia*. But the two grandest monarchies were that of *Egypt*, founded by *Ptolemy*, the son of *Lagus*, from whence came the *Lagides*; and that of *Asia*, or *Syria*, founded by *Seleucus*, from whence came the *Seleucides*. This latter comprized besides *Syria*, those vast and rich provinces of higher *Asia*, which made up the *Persian* empire: so that all the east submitted to *Greece*, and learnt its language. Even *Greece* itself fell under oppression by the generals of *Alexander*: and *Macedon*, his ancient kingdom, which gave laws as well as masters to the east, was left a prey to the first ravisher.<sup>q</sup>

Upon the whole, we may observe, that these empires have a necessary connexion to the history of the people of God: that the revolutions and successions of empires are regulated by providence; and that these re-

<sup>q</sup> *Bessuet*, p. 62.

volutions have particular causes, upon which princes ought to study and reflect.<sup>r</sup>

Year of the  
world 3699.  
Before Christ  
305.

The *Rhodians* were allies to the *Egyptians*, and were besieged by *Demetrius*: but *Ptolemy* delivered them from danger; for which the *Rhodians* paid him divine honors, and gave him the additional name of *Soter*, that is, the savior, by which he is commonly called by historians, to distinguish him from the other *Ptolemies* who succeeded him.<sup>s</sup>

*Demetrius* dispossessed *Ptolemy* of *Sicyon*, *Corinth*, and other places which he held in *Greece*. He also pressed hard upon *Cassander*; which occasioned the confederacy to be renewed against *Antigonus*.<sup>t</sup>

The forces of the four allied princes were assembled under the command of *Seleucus* and *Lyfimachus*; who were opposed both by *Antigonus* and *Demetrius*. The controversy between them was soon brought to a decisive issue in a fierce battle, wherein they engaged with their whole forces, near a city in *Phrygia* called *Ipsus*; in which *Antigonus* was slain, and the confederates gained an absolute victory. *Antigonus* was passed eighty years old, when

<sup>r</sup> *Ibid.*    <sup>s</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 439. *Diod. lib. XX. c. iv. v.*

<sup>t</sup> *Diod. l. XX. c. v.* Here we have the misfortune to lose our best guide *Diodorus Siculus*, whose last twenty books are entirely lost, except some fragments, which  
con-

when he thus fell.<sup>u</sup> His son *Demetrius* escaped to *Ephesus*, with 5000 foot and 4000 horse; which were all the remains he could pick up of near 90,000 men, with which he and his father entered the field of battle, *Demetrius* never could recover his father's empire; but, for the seventeen years which he afterwards lived, met with disappointments in every attempt he made towards it: till at length he fell into the hands of *Seleucus*, who had married his daughter *Stratonice*; yet he confined his father in a prison, where he died. *Demetrius* had married *Ptolemaida*, the daughter of *Ptolemy*, and retained *Cyprus*, and *Phœnicia*. When he had continued in his captivity for three years, he was seized with a severe distemper, occasioned by his inactivity and intemperance, and died at the age of 54 years. The urn which inclosed his ashes was transmitted to his son *Antigonus*, who celebrated his funeral with great magnificence. We shall see, that this *Antigonus*, who was surnamed *Gonatas*, continued peaceable possessor of the kingdom of *Macedon*; and that the race of this prince enjoyed the crown for several generations, in a direct line from father to son, till

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contain an account of affairs for the space of 244 years, from the 119th to the 180th olympiad.

<sup>u</sup> *Diodorus's* fragments out of lib. XXI. *Justin.* lib. XV. c. iv.

the reign of *Perseus*, the last of that family, from whom the *Romans* took *Macedon*.<sup>w</sup>

After the death of *Antigonus*, his dominions were divided between the four confederated princes, who entered into a solemn league, whereby the whole empire of *Alexander* became divided, and settled into four kingdoms; of which *Ptolemy* had *Egypt*, *Lybia*, *Arabia*, *Cele-Syria*, and *Palestine*; to which he afterwards added *Phœnicia* and *Cyprus*: *Cassander* got *Macedon* and *Greece*: *Lyfimachus* obtained *Thrace*, *Bithynia*, and some other provinces beyond the *Hellepont*, with the *Bosphorus*: and *Seleucus* acquired all the rest of *Asia*, to the other side of the *Euphrates*, and as far as the *Indus*.<sup>x</sup> In all their contests, which they or their successors afterwards had about the limits of their several kingdoms, they always appealed to this league, as the original charter by which they held their kingdoms, and that regal authority whereby they reigned over them. Therefore, from the making of this league only, can they properly and in the truest sense be called kings; and they were only four, to whom the prophecies of *Daniel* refer.<sup>y</sup>

*Inst.*

<sup>w</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 441. 445 . II. p. 4. 6. *Rollin*, VIII. 247. 271.

<sup>x</sup> *Prideaux*, I. 441. 447. *Rollin*, VIII. 248.

<sup>y</sup> *Ibid.* 442, 249.

*Lyfimachus* made a strict alliance with *Ptolemy*, and married his daughter *Arfinoe*: soon after which, *Agathocles* the son of *Lyfimachus* married *Lyfandra* the sister of *Arfinoe*.<sup>x</sup> But *Lyfimachus* afterwards killed his son *Agathocles*; and was killed himself in a battle which he fought against *Seleucus*, who was also slain by the treachery of *Ptolemy Ceraunus*, the brother of *Arfinoe*.<sup>y</sup>

*Pyrrhus*, the famous king of *Epirus*, married *Antigone*, one of *Ptolemy*'s family. He had been kept out of his kingdom by *Neoptolemus* an usurper, and followed *Demetrius* in his wars while very young: he fought valiantly in his cause at the battle of *Ipsus*; and was sent to *Ptolemy* as an hostage on the part of *Demetrius* for the performance of the articles of peace. *Ptolemy* had another wife called *Eurydice*, who was the daughter of *Antipater*, and sister to *Cassander*. When *Antipater* sent this lady into *Egypt* to be married to *Ptolemy*, he sent *Berenice* with her as a companion; she being then the widow of one *Philip* a *Macedonian*, lately deceased, by whom she had this *Antigone*. On her arrival in *Egypt* she soon grew so much into the liking of *Ptolemy*, that he also married her, and loved her much more than any other wife he had: therefore, when *Pyrrhus* married her daughter, she prevailed with *Ptolemy* to assist

<sup>x</sup> *Plutarch*. in *Demetrio*.

<sup>y</sup> *Justin* l. XVII. c. ii. *Prideaux* vol. II. p. 17.



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list him with a fleet and money; by means whereof he recovered his kingdom, and from this beginning grew up to be the most eminent person of the age in which he lived.<sup>z</sup>

Year of the world 3719. Before Christ 285. PTOLEMY II. surnamed *Philadelphus*,<sup>a</sup> was the son of *Ptolemy Soter* by *Berenice*, and was declared by his father partner in the em-

pire, and successor to the crown after his death. The father had reigned twenty years in *Egypt*, with the stile of king, and near thirty-nine from the death of *Alexander*: he was now upwards of fourscore, and was induced to declare this son his heir by the ascendancy which *Berenice* had over him. For the old king had several sons by his other wives, and among these *Ptolemy Ceraunus*, or the *Thunderer*; who, being the son of *Eurydice*, and the eldest of the male issue, looked upon the crown as his birth-right: therefore, to prevent the wars which might ensue after his death between the two brothers, he resolved to place the crown on the head of *Philadelphus* in his life time, and reign in partnership with him. Hereupon *Ceraunus* quitted the court, and retired to *Lysimachus*,

<sup>z</sup> *Plutarch. in Pyrrho. Justin l. XVII. c. ii, iii. l. XXV. c. v. Prideaux l. 446. Rollin VIII. 255. 257.*

<sup>a</sup> The word signifies, *a lover of his brethren*: but *Ptolemy* received this surname, agreeable to a figure of speech called *Antiphrasis*, because he charged two of his brothers with

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*machus*, whose son *Agathocles* had married his sister *Lysandra*.<sup>b</sup>

In the first year of the reign of *Ptolemy Philadelphus*, the famous watch-tower in the island of *Pharos* was finished, which we have before described.<sup>c</sup> About this time, the image of the God *Serapis* was brought from *Pontus* to *Alexandria*. *Ptolemy* had been induced by a dream to demand it, by an embassy, of the king of *Sinope*, where it was kept. However, it was refused him for two years: but then the inhabitants of *Sinope* suffered such extremities from a famine, that they consented to resign this idol to *Ptolemy* for a supply of corn, which he transmitted to them. The statue was then conveyed to *Alexandria*, and placed in one of the suburbs, called *Rhacotis*, where it was first adored by the name of *Serapis*; and a famous temple, called the *Serapion*, was afterwards erected for it in that place. This structure, in beauty and magnificence, is said to have surpassed all the temples in the world, except the capitol at *Rome*. This temple had also a library, which became famous in all succeeding ages, for the number and value of the books it contained.<sup>d</sup>

*Origen*

with forming designs against his life, and then caused them to be destroyed. *Pausanias* l. I.

<sup>b</sup> *Rollin* VIII. 271. *Prideaux* v. II. p. 7.

<sup>c</sup> See Vol. II. p. 118.

<sup>d</sup> *Ammianus Marcellinus*, l. XX, c. xvi. *Rollin* VIII. 273. *Prideaux* II. 9, 10.

*Origen* was an *Egyptian*, and speaks of *Serapis* as a God not long before received in that country : and it is to be observed, that, as he was a new God, so he introduced a new worship among the *Egyptians*. For till the time of the *Ptolemies* they never offered any bloody sacrifices to their gods, whom they worshiped only with prayers and frankincense. But the tyranny of the *Ptolemies* having forced upon them the worship of two foreign gods, that is, *Saturn* and *Serapis*, they first brought in the use of bloody sacrifices among this people, who always continued so averse to it, that they would never suffer any temple to be built to either of those gods within any of the walls of their cities : but wherever they were in that country, they were always built without them in their suburbs. They seem only to have been the *Egyptians* of the *Greek* original who conformed thereto, and not those of the old race : for they still retained their ancient usage in all their old temples, and could never be induced to offer the blood of beasts in any of them, which was always an abomination to them from the beginning.<sup>c</sup>

*Ptolemy Soter* was a learned prince, as appears by the history of the life of *Alexander* written by him ; which was of great repute among the ancients, though now not extant :  
and

<sup>c</sup> *Prideaux*, part II. book I. vol. II. p. 11.

and, out of the affection he had for learning, he founded at *Alexandria* a musæum, or college of learned men, like that of the *royal society* at *London*, and the *royal academy of sciences* at *Paris*. For this use he got together a valuable library of books, which were augmented by his successors, and grew afterwards to a very great bulk. *Ptolemy Philadelphus* left in it at the time of his death 100,000 volumes; and those that reigned after him of that race still added more to them, till at length they amounted to 700,000 volumes. Their method in collecting them was thus: they seized all the books that were brought into *Egypt* by any *Greek*, or other foreigner, and sending them to the musæum, caused them there to be written out by those of that society, whom they there maintained; they then sent the transcript to the owners, and kept the originals to lay up in the library. It is particularly said, of *Ptolemy Euergetes*, that having thus borrowed of the *Athenians* the works of *Sophocles*, *Euripides*, and *Æschylus*, he sent them back the copies, and retained the originals for his library, giving them 15 talents, or 3094*l.* sterling, for the same.<sup>f</sup> *Strabo* says, that this musæum was a large building adjoining to the palace, and standing near the port: that it was surrounded with a portico, or piazza, wherein the philosophers walked  
and

<sup>f</sup> *Ibid.* 12.

and conversed together : that the numbers of the society were under the government of a president, whose office was of that consideration and dignity, that during the reigns of the *Ptolemies* he was always appointed by those kings, and afterwards by the *Roman* emperors : and that they had within this building a common hall, where they eat together, and were plentifully provided for at the common charge.<sup>s</sup> *Demetrius* the *Phalerean* seems to have been the first president of this musæum. He had been prince of *Athens*, and governed that state with absolute authority ten years together. As a legislator, and philosopher, he was esteemed one of the most eminent men of the time in which he lived ; and the emperor *Antoninus* ranks him with the greatest princes of that age, even with *Philip* and *Alexander the Great*. *Demetrius* was prime minister to *Ptolemy Soter* ; and probably first put him upon these projects. For *Plutarch* tells us, that “ *Demetrius Phalereus* persuaded *Ptolemy* to get together books, which treated of the government of kingdoms and states, and to read them : for in those he would find such good advice, as none of his friends would dare to give him,”<sup>h</sup> However, to this musæum it was owing, that *Alexandria*, for a great many ages together, was the greatest school of learning in all those parts of the world ;

<sup>s</sup> *Strabo*, lib. XV.

<sup>h</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 15.

world; and a great many men of very excellent literature were bred in it; particularly the christian church received out of it some of its most eminent doctors, as *Clemens Alexandrinus*, *Ammonius*, *Origen*, *Anatolius*, *Athanasius*, and others, who had their education there.<sup>i</sup>

*Ptolemy Soter* died in the second year after admitting his son to sit on his throne with him, and was 84 years of age at his death. He was the wisest and best of his race; and left an example of prudence, justice, and clemency behind him, which none of his successors chose to follow. During the forty years, in which he governed *Egypt* from the death of *Alexander*, he had brought that country into a very flourishing condition, with administering great plenty to his successors; this administered as great luxury in them, in which they exceeded most that lived in their time.<sup>k</sup> He raised *Egypt* to such a height of grandeur and power, as rendered it superior to other kingdoms. He retained upon the throne, the same fondness of simplicity of manners, and the same aversion for ostentatious pomp, as he discovered when he first ascended it. He was accessible to his subjects, even to a degree of familiarity; frequently eat with them at their houses; and thought it no disgrace to borrow their richest plate,\* when he gave any entertainments himself; because he had little of his

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own:

<sup>i</sup> *Ibid.* p. 14.

<sup>k</sup> *I.* 9.



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own: and when some persons represented to him, that the royal dignity seemed to require an air of greater opulence, his answer was, “ the true grandeur of a king consisted in enriching others, not himself.”<sup>1</sup>

When *Ptolemy Philadelphus* ascended the throne, he entertained his subjects with the most splendid festivity mentioned by antiquity. *Athenæus* has left us a long description of it, transcribed from *Callixenes* the *Rhodian*, who compiled a history of *Alexandria*, and *Montfaucon* relates it in his antiquities. We shall here insert the particulars of it, because they convey a very proper idea of the grandeur and opulence of *Egypt*. We may also add, with *Rollin*, that as ancient authors frequently speak of sacred pomp, processions, and solemn festivals, in honour of their gods, it is incumbent on us to give some idea of them for once, by describing one of the most celebrated solemnities that ever was known.

This pompous solemnity continued a whole day, and was conducted through the *Circus* of *Alexandria*; being divided into several parts, and forming a variety of separate processions. The gods had each of them a distinct cavalcade, adorned with the ornaments relating to their history: but *Athenæus* has only related the

<sup>1</sup> *Rollin*, VIII. 279. *Plutarch's Apophthegms*, p. 47.

the particulars of that of *Bacchus*, by which a judgment may be formed of the magnificence of the rest.

The procession began with a troop of *Sileni*; followed by a band of *Satyrs*, who were succeeded by the *Victories*. These last had golden wings, and carried vases nine feet high, steaming with kindled perfumes: their habits were embroidered with the figures of animals, and every part of them glittered with gold. After these came a double altar, covered with a luxuriant foliage of ivy, intermixed with ornaments of gold, and beautified with a golden crown, composed of vine leaves, and adorned with white fillets. Next advanced 120 youths, cloathed in purple vests; each of them supporting a golden vase of saffron, incense, and myrrh. They were followed by forty *Satyrs*, with golden crowns; two persons representing the year, and the genii of the four seasons. Then came *Philiscus*, the poet and priest of *Bacchus*, attended by comedians, musicians, dancers, and others of that class. Two tripods were carried next, as prizes for the victors at the athletic combats and exercises. An extraordinary large chariot followed these, drawn by 180 men; in which was a figure representing *Bacchus*, fifteen feet in height, and in the attitude of performing libations with a large cup of gold. Before him was a great vessel of gold, formed in the *Laconic* manner, and containing fifteen

metretes, or 145 *English* Gallons. This was accompanied with a golden tripod, with a golden vase of odors. *Bacchus* was seated in a shade of ivy and vine leaves, intermixed with the foliage of fruit trees; and from these hung several crowns, fillets, and thyrsi, with timbrels, ribbands, and a variety of satiric, comic, and tragic masques: and in the same chariot were the priests and priestesses of that deity, with the other ministers, and interpreters of mysteries, dancers of all sorts, and women bearing vases. These were followed by the *Bacchantes*, who marched with their hair dishevelled, and wore crowns composed some of serpents, others of branches of the yew, vine, or ivy. After these advanced another chariot, drawn by 60 men; in which was the statue of *Nysa*, or *Nysa*, the supposed nurse of *Bacchus*. Then came another chariot, drawn by 300 men; on which was a capacious wine-press, full of the produce of the vintage: sixty *Satyrs* trod the grapes, and sung airs to the sound of flutes: *Silenus* was the chief of the band, and streams of wine flowed from the chariot throughout the whole procession. Next, followed another chariot, drawn by 600 men; which contained a vessel of 3000 measures, or 27000 *English* gallons, and shed a constant effusion of wine. This chariot was followed by 120 crowned *Satyrs* and *Sileni*, carrying pots, flaggons, and large cups, all of gold. Then succeeded a silver vessel, containing

taining 600 metretes, or 5400 gallons, adorned with jewels. Next appeared several large and rich bowls, and other vessels of massy gold and silver. After this rich equipage, marched 1600 youths, habited in white vests, and carrying gold and silver vases. Another troop succeeded, with large and superb drinking vessels, and tables, on one of which was represented the bed of *Semele*. In a chariot, drawn by 500 men, was the representation of a deep cavern, shrouded with ivy and vine-leaves: a fountain of milk, and another of wine, flowed out of the cavern: all the nymphs who surrounded it wore crowns of gold: and *Mercury* was seen habited in a splendid manner, with a golden Caduceus in his hand. The expedition of *Bacchus* into the *Indies* was exhibited in another chariot, where the god was represented by a statue, eight feet in height, and mounted upon an elephant: he was arrayed in purple, and wore a golden crown, intermixed with twining ivy and vine-leaves: a long thyrsus of gold was in his hand, and his sandals were of the same metal. A tall *Satyr* was seated on the neck of the elephant, with a crown of gold on his head, formed in imitation of pine-branches, and blowing a kind of trumpet made of a goat's horn: the trappings of the elephant were of gold, and his neck was adorned with a golden crown shaped like the foliage of ivy. This chariot was followed by 500 young virgins,

adorned with purple vests, and golden zones. Next came 120 *Satyrs*, in glittering arms; and these were succeeded by five troops of *Sileni*, and crowned *Satyrs*, mounted on asses, entirely harnessed with gold and silver. After this troop appeared a long train of chariots; 24 of which were drawn by elephants; 60 by he-goats; 12 by lions; 6 by oryges, a species of goats; 15 by buffalos; 4 by wild asses; 8 by ostriches; and 7 by stags. In these chariots were youths habited like charioteers, accompanied by others of a less stature, cloathed in mantles embroidered with gold. On each side of these were three chariots drawn by camels, followed by others drawn by mules; in which were tents, with women of various nations, habited like slaves; and the camels carried great loads of odoriferous spices. Then marched a large band of *Ethiopians*, followed by hunters at the head of 2400 dogs of the *Indian*, *Hyrcanian*, and *Molossian* breed. They were succeeded by 150 men, with several sorts of birds, deer, sheep, and oxen; also a large white bear, 14 leopards, 16 panthers, 4 lynxes, 3 bears, a camelopard, and a rhinoceros. *Bacchus* advanced next, seated in a chariot, and wearing a crown of gold embellished with ivy-leaves: he was represented as taking sanctuary at the altar of *Rhea*, from the persecution of *Juno*; and *Priapus* was placed near him, with a golden crown. The statue of *Juno* was crowned with

with a golden diadem; and those of *Alexander* and *Ptolemy* had crowns of fine gold. The image of *Virtue* was placed near that of *Ptolemy*; and also another statue, which represented the city of *Corinth*. At a little distance was a great vase with golden cups, and a large bowl of gold. This chariot was followed by several women richly arrayed, and wearing crowns of gold. In another chariot was a gold thyrsus, 135 feet long; and a silver lance 80 feet in length. In this part of the procession were a variety of wild beasts and horses, and 24 lions of a prodigious size; also a great number of chariots, in which were the statues of several kings and deities. After these, came a chorus of 600 men, among whom were 300 who played on gilded harps, and wore golden crowns. After them were 2000 bulls, all of the same color, and adorned with golden frontlets, in the middle of which rose a crown of gold. Next advanced the procession of *Jupiter*, and a great number of other deities; closed by that of *Alexander*, whose statue of massy gold was placed in a chariot drawn by elephants: on one side of this statue stood *Victory*, and *Minerva* on the other. The procession was graced with several thrones of gold and ivory, on one of which was a large golden diadem. On the throne of *Ptolemy Soter* was a golden crown, which weighed 10,000 pieces of gold, and was equal to about 5000 l. sterling. In this procession  
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were also 300 golden vases, in which perfumes were to be burnt; with fifty gilded altars, encompassed with golden crowns: there were large torches of gold, rich gilded hearths, and magnificent *Delphic* tripods of gold. After these were several gilded Palms, and a gilt Caduceus 62 feet long; a gilded thunderbolt 60 feet in length; and a gilded temple 60 feet in circumference. Next were carried 3200 crowns of gold; together with a consecrated crown, 120 feet in circumference, and adorned with a profusion of gems: many golden vessels, and other ornaments, embellished with jewels; particularly 20 golden bucklers, and 64 complete suits of golden armour; as also many tables of gold, covered with golden goblets. There were likewise 400 chariots loaded with vessels, and other works of silver; 20 others filled with golden vessels, and 800 more appropriated to the carriage of aromatic spices. The troops which guarded this procession were composed of 57,600 foot, and 23,000 horse, all armed and dressed in a magnificent manner. During the games and public combats, which continued several days, after this pompous solemnity, *Ptolemy Soter* presented the victors with twenty crowns of gold, and they received 23 from his consort *Berenice*. It appeared by the registers of the palace, that these last crowns were valued at 2230 talents, or about 334,000*l.* sterling: from whence some judgment may be

be formed of the immense sums to which all the gold and silver employed in this splendid ceremonial might amount.<sup>m</sup>

Such was the magnificence exhibited by *Ptolemy Philadelphus*, at his coronation: but no part of it was conducted with elegance, genius, or taste. The spoils of whole provinces and cities were sacrificed to the curiosity of a single day. It was converting a sacred procession, and a solemnity of religion, into a public school of intemperance and licentiousness. What divinities must those be, that would exact, or so much as suffer, so scandalous a pomp in their worship!

*Ptolemy Philadelphus* caused *Demetrius Phalerus* to be seized and imprisoned: but, at last, the bite of an aspic put an end to the life of that great man, who merited a better fate. In the mean time, *Seleucus* defeated and killed *Lysimachus*, in *Phrygia*; when the victor took possession of all his dominions, and assumed the title of *Nicator*, or the *Conqueror*:<sup>n</sup> but he was basely assassinated by *Ptolemy Ceraunus*,<sup>o</sup> who was afterwards taken prisoner, and put to death by the *Gauls*, under *Belgius*, whose troops were drove out of *Greece*, and settled in that part of *Asia Minor*, which took from them the denomination of *Gallo-Græcia*, or *Galatia*.<sup>p</sup> *Antiochus*, the son  
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<sup>m</sup> *Athenæus*, lib. V.

<sup>n</sup> *Justin*, l. XVII. c. 2.

<sup>o</sup> *Ibid.* lib. XXIV. c. 2. 4.

<sup>p</sup> *Rollin*, VIII. p. 308. *Prideaux*, II. p. 21.

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of *Seleucus Nicator*, got possession of the crown of *Macedon*, and transmitted it to his posterity, who enjoyed it for several generations, to the time of *Perseus*, who was defeated by *Paulus Æmilius*, and divested of his dominions, which became a province to *Rome*.

The tumult of the wars which diversity of interest had kindled among the successors of *Alexander*, could not prevent *Ptolemy Philadelphus* from devoting his utmost attention to the noble library he had founded in *Alexandria*, and wherein he deposited the most valuable and curious books he was capable of collecting from all parts of the world. Being informed, that the *Jews* had a book which contained the laws of *Moses*, and the history of that people, he was desirous to have it translated out of the *Hebrew* into the *Greek* language, that his library might be enriched with so valuable a performance. To accomplish this design, it was necessary for him to address the *Jewish* high priest; in which he met with great difficulty; because a great number of *Jews* were then actually reduced to a state of slavery in *Egypt*, by *Ptolemy Soter*, during the invasion of *Judæa* in his Time; and it was represented to the king, that there would be no probability of obtaining from that people either a copy, or a faithful translation of their law, while he suffered their countrymen to continue in their servitude. *Aristeas*, *Sofibius*, and *Andreas*, three of his  
principal

principal noblemen, advised *Ptolemy* to release all the *Jewish* captives, who were above one hundred thousand: upon which, the king published a decree for their release; and ordered twenty drachms an head to be paid out of his treasury, to those that had them in servitude, for the price of their redemption; and this was computed to amount to 400 talents,<sup>9</sup> which shews the number of the redeemed to have been 120,000. But the king afterwards ordered the children that were born to those *Jews*, while in their servitude, and their mothers, to be also redeemed; and this made the whole expence amount to 660 talents, or 297,000 l. sterling; which proves the whole number of the redeemed to be 198,000 persons.<sup>1</sup> *Ptolemy* then wrote a letter to *Eleazer* the high-priest of the *Jews* at *Jerusalem*, to send from thence a true copy of the *Hebrew* original book of the law of *Moses*; and, with it, six out of each of the twelve tribes of *Israel*, to translate it into *Greek*. *Aristeas* and *Andreas* were sent with this letter to *Jerusalem*, who also carried several gifts for the temple; to the value of 1100 talents, or 495,000 l. sterling. They

<sup>9</sup> The talent of silver, both of *Hebrew* and *Alexandrian* money, was equal to 450 l. sterling. *Prideaux's pref.* to v. l. p. xxii. xxiii. So that the 400 talents amounted to 180,000 l. sterling, which is double the sum set down in *Rollin*, v. VIII. p. 311.

<sup>1</sup> *Prideaux*, v. II. p. 22. *Usser. Annal.* pars prior, p. 254.

They were received at *Jerusalem* with the highest honors, and their request was granted with the greatest joy. Upon which they returned to *Alexandria* with an authentic copy of the *Mosaic* law, written in letters of gold, and given them by the high-priest himself, with six elders of each tribe, being 72 in all, who were authorized to translate the *Hebrew* copy into the *Greek* language. On their arrival at *Alexandria*, the king called those elders to his court, where he made trial of them by 72 questions proposed to them, to each one in their order; and from the answers which they made, approving of their wisdom, he gave to each of them three talents, or 1350l. sterling, amounting in the whole to 97,200l. sterling. The elders were then conducted to the isle of *Pharos*, and lodged in a house provided for their reception, where they were plentifully supplied with all necessary accommodations. They applied themselves immediately to their work, and completed the volume, which is commonly called the *SEPTUAGINT Version*, in seventy-two days. They agreed in the version of each period by common conference together; after which, the whole was read over and approved of in the presence of the king, who gave to each of them three rich garments, two talents in gold, and a cup of gold of a talent weight, with which they returned to *Jerusalem*.<sup>s</sup>

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<sup>s</sup> *Ibid.* 23, *Usser. Annal.* 255, *Stackhouse*, p. 1078,

The author from whom these facts are extracted is the abovementioned *Aristeas*, whose book is still extant. *Aristobulus*, an *Alexandrian Jew*, who lived 125 years before Christ, is the next that makes mention of this version. He is said to have written a comment on the five books of *Moses*, and to have dedicated it to king *Ptolemy Philometer*, to whom he had been preceptor, and therein to have spoken of this *Greek* version made by the command of *Ptolemy Philadelphus*. *Philo*, another *Alexandrian Jew*, who was contemporary with our Savior, also makes mention of this version, and confirms the account given by *Aristeas*; with some extraordinary additions. He particularly says, that the *Jews* of *Alexandria*, in commemoration of this work, kept a solemn anniversary one day in every year, when they went over into the island of *Pharos*, where they spent that day in feasting, rejoicing, and giving praise to God for his divine assistance, so wonderfully given by him, in the making of this version. *Josephus* wrote his antiquities of the *Jews* towards the end of the first century after Christ, and agrees with *Aristeas* in his relation of this matter; what he writes of it being no more than an abridgment of that author:<sup>t</sup> but he varies in his account concern-

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<sup>t</sup> *Joseph. Antig. lib. XII. c. ii.* He has preserved the letters at length, which passed between king *Ptolemy Philadelphus* and the high-priest *Eleazer*.



ing the price paid by *Ptolemy* for the redemption of the captive *Jews*: he makes it 120 drachms an head, and the sum total only 460 talents. *Eusebius* flourished about 120 years after *Josephus*, and also confirms the account of *Aristeas*. The whole is amplified by *Justin Martyr*, and other christian writers, as *Irenæus*, *Clemens Alexandrinus*, *Hilary*, *Austin*, *Cyril*, and *Epiphanius*. The last was bishop of *Salamine* in *Cyprus*, in the year of Christ 368; and gives a particular account in what manner the *Septuagint* version was made. Historical disquisitions of this nature, require much time and learning: but the curious reader may consult the learned dean *Prideaux*, who has treated this subject at large.<sup>u</sup> He looks upon the book going under the name of *Aristeas* to be a spurious piece, and the work of some hellenistical *Jew*; for which he assigns his reasons, and particularly against the incredible sum of money, thereby said to be advanced by *Ptolemy* for obtaining of this version; which he sums up to be near two millions sterling, and may well be reckoned to be above twenty times as much as that whole library was ever worth. “ And who can then believe, that this narrative, which makes *Ptolemy* expend so much for one single book in it; and which neither he nor any of his court, as long as they

<sup>u</sup> *Prideaux's Connection*, part II. v. II. p. 21—27.  
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they continued heathens, could have any great value for, can be a true and genuine history?"<sup>w</sup>

However, it plainly appears, that there was a translation of the *Hebrew* scriptures into *Greek*, made in the time that the *Ptolemies* reigned in *Egypt*: for we still have the book, and it is the same which was in use in the time of our blessed Savior; as most of the passages quoted by the holy pen-men of the *New Testament*, in the *Greek* original of it, out of the *Old Testament*, are now found *verbatim* in this version: and there is no reason but to believe, that a copy of this translation, as soon as it was made, was put into the *Ptolemean* library at *Alexandria*.<sup>x</sup> It still subsists, and continues to be used in the oriental churches; as it also was by those in the primitive ages, among whom it passed for a canonical translation.<sup>y</sup>

Therefore, this version, which rendered the scripture of the *Old Testament* intelligible to a vast number of people, became one of the most considerable fruits of the *Grecian* conquests; and was evidently comprehended in the design God had in view, when he delivered up all the East to the *Greeks*; and supported them in those regions, notwithstanding their divisions and jealousies, their wars, and frequent revolutions. In this manner, God

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<sup>w</sup> *Ibid.* p. 28.

<sup>x</sup> *Ibid.* p. 27.

<sup>y</sup> *Rollin*, VIII. 313.

prepared the way for the preaching of the gospel, which was then approaching, and facilitated the union of so many nations, of different languages and manners, into one society, and the same worship and doctrines, by the instrumentality of the finest, most copious, and correct language that was ever spoken in the world, and which became common to all the countries conquered by *Alexander the Great*.

After all, it may not be improper to observe, that the most ancient and the best manuscript of the *Septuagint* version now extant, is the *Alexandrian* copy, which is in the king's library at *St. James's*, wrote all in capital letters, without the distinctions of chapters, verses, or words. It was sent for a present to king *Charles I.* by *Cyrillus Lucaris* then patriarch of *Constantinople*, who had been before patriarch of *Alexandria*. He also sent an account of the book in a schedule annexed to it, written in *Latin* with his own hand; signifying, that "This book of the holy scriptures of the *Old and New Testament*, as we have it by tradition, was written by the hand of *Thecla*, a noble *Egyptian* lady, about 1300 years since, a little after the council of *Nice*."<sup>z</sup>

*Ptolemy Philadelphus* had married *Arfinoe* the daughter of *Lyfimachus*, who brought him two sons and a daughter, of whom the eldest succeeded

<sup>z</sup> *Prideaux*, II. p. 47.

ceeded his father, and was known by the name of *Euergetes*: but their mother, through jealousy, promoted a conspiracy to destroy her husband, who discovered the plot, and confined her in *Upper Egypt*, near *Ethiopia*. *Ptolemy* then married another *Arfinoe*, who was his own sister, and had been married to *Ptolemy Ceraunus*.

The *Romans*, about this time, began to be of great fame among foreign nations. After a war of six years, they had obliged *Pyrrhus* king of *Epirus* to abandon *Italy*, and return with disgrace into his own country; whereupon *Ptolemy Philadelphus*, desiring to enter into an alliance with them, sent an embassy for that purpose to *Rome*. This was the first time that any *Egyptians* had appeared among the *Romans*; and the senate was overjoyed to see foreigners come so far to court the friendship of their republic, whose dominions were then confined within narrow bounds. An embassy was also sent from *Rome* to *Egypt* the following year, in return to the civilities of *Ptolemy*. The ambassadors were *Quintus Fabius Gurges*, *Cn. Fabius Piclor*, his brother *Numerius*, and *L. Ogulnius*. The disinterested air with which they appeared, sufficiently indicated the greatness of their souls. *Ptolemy* gave them a splendid entertainment, and presented each of them with a crown of gold; which they received, because they were unwilling to disoblige him by declining the honor he intended them; but the next morning

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they placed those crowns on the statues of the king erected in the public parts of the city. *Ptolemy* also gave them magnificent presents at their departure, which they deposited in the public treasury on their arrival at *Rome*: however, the republic would not suffer itself to be exceeded in generosity of sentiments, and ordered that the ambassadors should receive a sum of money equivalent to what they had put in the treasury. This was a noble contest between glory and generosity. We may observe here, three fine examples set before us, in the noble liberality of *Ptolemy*, the disinterested spirit of the ambassadors, and the grateful equity of the *Romans*.<sup>a</sup>

*Ptolemy* confederated with the *Lacedemonians* and *Athenians* against *Antigonus Gonatus* king of *Macedon*, who besieged *Athens*, and took it; notwithstanding *Ptolemy* sent a fleet to its relief.<sup>b</sup>

The long peace and tranquility which *Ptolemy* had enjoyed for twenty years, was unexpectedly disturbed by the revolt of *Magas*, whom the king had ever esteemed as one of his best and most faithful friends. He was half brother to him, being son of *Eerenice* by her first husband; and that princess had prevailed on *Ptolemy Soter* to give him the government of *Lybia* and *Cyrene*, where he strengthened himself by long possession, and by his marriage with *Apame*, the daugh-

<sup>a</sup> *Valerius Maximus*. *Prideaux*, II. 51. *Rollin*, IX. 43.  
<sup>b</sup> *Justin*, lib. XXVI. c. ii.

daughter of *Antiochus Soter* king of *Syria*. He was not contented with depriving his brother of the two provinces he governed; but formed a resolution to dethrone him. With this view he advanced into *Egypt*, at the head of a great army; and, in his march towards *Alexandria*, seized *Parætonium*, a city of *Marmarica*. He was there informed, that a part of the *Lybians* had revolted from him, and was obliged to march back to suppress this defection. *Ptolemy* was then with a numerous army on the borders of his kingdom: but was prevented from following *Magas* by an insurrection in *Egypt*; for among his mercenaries were 4000 *Gauls*, who formed a conspiracy to make themselves masters of the kingdom. This made *Ptolemy* return to crush the conspirators, whom he surrounded in an island in the *Nile*, where they all perished of famine, or slew each other with their own swords.<sup>c</sup>

*Magas* engaged his father-in-law *Antiochus Soter* in a conspiracy against *Ptolemy*, which was rendered ineffectual by the vigilance of the latter, who invaded the maritime provinces of *Syria*, and obliged *Antiochus* to keep at home for the defence of his own territories. This was soon followed by a peace between all parties, and treaties of marriage, which proved fatal to the family of *Antiochus*. *Magas* had agreed to marry his daughter *Berenice* to the eldest

<sup>c</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 52.





eldest son of *Ptolemy*; but died before the treaty was executed, after he had reigned 50 years over *Lybia* and *Cyrene*. In the latter end of his life he was much addicted to ease and luxury, eating and drinking beyond all temperance and measure; whereon he grew so corpulent, that at length he weighed himself down into the grave by the load of his own fat. After his death, his wife *Apame*, whom *Justin* calls *Arsinoe*, broke the match: but her daughter *Berenice* went into *Egypt*, and consummated it; while her mother was sent into *Syria*, to her brother king *Antiochus Theos*, whom she exasperated to make war upon *Ptolemy*, which was of long continuance, and ended in his destruction. *Antiochus* was obliged to divorce his favourite wife *Laodice*, to marry *Berenice* the daughter of *Ptolemy*, and settle the crown on the male issue of that marriage, which was contracted on political views, and founded on unjust conditions, the sure prognostics of fatal consequences; as will be more particularly related in our history of the *Seleucidae*.<sup>d</sup>

*Ptolemy* was intent to advance the riches of his kingdom, and by drawing to it all the trade of the east, which the *Tyrians* had till then carried on by sea to *Elatb*; and from thence, by the way of *Rhinocorura* to *Tyre*. These were two sea-ports; the one on the eastern shore of the

<sup>d</sup> *Ibid.* 57. *Univ. Hist.* IX. p. 197. 385. *Rollin*, IX. 53.

the *Red-sea*; and the other at the bottom of the *Mediterranean*, between *Egypt* and *Palestine*, near the mouth of that river, which the scriptures call the river of *Egypt*. To draw this trade into *Egypt*, *Ptolemy* contrived to build a city on the western-side of the *Red-sea*, from whence the ships might set out. But observing that the *Red-sea* was of very difficult and dangerous navigation towards the bottom of the gulph, by reason of its rocks and shelves, he built his city at as great distance from that part of this sea as he could, placing it almost as far down as the confines of *Ethiopia*, and called it *Berenice* from the name of his mother. This harbour was found inconvenient, and *Myos Hormus*, in its neighbourhood, was preferred to the new city; and all the commodities of *Arabia*, *India*, *Persia*, and *Ethiopia*, were brought there by sea; from whence they were transported by camels to *Coptus* on the *Nile*; from thence down that river to *Alexandria*, and from it dispersed all over the west, in exchange for its merchandize, which was afterwards exported to the east by the same way.<sup>e</sup> By this means the *Tyrians* were deprived of this profitable traffic, which became thenceforth fixed at *Alexandria*; and this city from that time continued to be the prime mart of all the trade that was carried on between the east and west for above 1700 years after, till another passage  
from

<sup>e</sup> *Strabo*, l. XVII.

from the west in those countries was found out by the way of the *Cape of Good-Hope* in 1486, by *Bartholomew Diaz*, who was employed for that purpose by *John II.* king of *Portugal*.<sup>f</sup> But the road from *Coptus* to the *Red-sea* being through desarts, where no water was to be had, nor any conveniences of towns or houses for the lodging of passengers, *Ptolemy* endeavoured to remedy both these inconveniencies, by drawing a ditch from *Coptus*, which carried the water of *Nile* all along by that road, and built on it several inns at such proper distances as to afford every night lodgings and convenient refreshments both for man and beast, to all that should pass that way. As he thus projected to draw all the trade of the east and west into his kingdom, so he provided a very great fleet to protect it, part of which he kept in the *Red-sea*, and part in the *Mediterranean*. This last was extremely fine, and some of the ships which composed it of a very unusual bigness: for he had in it two ships of thirty oars on a side, one of twenty oars, four of fourteen, two of twelve, fourteen of eleven, thirty of nine, thirty seven of seven, five of six, and seventeen of five. The number of the whole amounted to one hundred and twelve vessels: and he had as many more with four and three benches of oars; beside a prodigious number of small vessels.

<sup>f</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 56. *Modern part of the Universal History*, v. IX. p. 172. 214. 226. 249.

sels. With this formidable fleet, he not only maintained and advanced the trade of his country; but also kept most of the maritime provinces in *Lesser Asia* in thorough subjection to him as long as he lived; as *Cilicia*, *Pamphylia*, *Lycia*, *Caria*, and even the *Cyclades*.<sup>g</sup>

*Ptolemy* never omitted to search for books for his library; and also for the pictures and drawings of eminent artists. *Aratus*, the famous *Sicyonian*, was one of those who collected for him in *Greece*; and he had the good fortune to gratify the taste of that prince for those works of art to such a degree, that *Ptolemy* entertained a friendship for him, and presented him with 150<sup>h</sup> talents, equal to 67,500 l. sterling; which *Aratus* expended in the relief of the necessitous *Sicyonians*, and in the redemption of such of them as were detained in captivity.<sup>i</sup>

While *Ptolemy* was in *Syria*, he saw a statue of *Diana* in one of her temples, which he carried into *Egypt*. Soon after his return, *Arfinoe* fell sick, and dreamt that *Diana* appeared to her, telling her, that the cause of her sickness was, that *Ptolemy* had taken away her statue from the temple, where it had been consecrated to her. Upon this, the statue was sent back, accompanied with many gifts and oblations

<sup>g</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 56. *Rollin* IX. 52.

<sup>h</sup> *Rollin*, by mistake, says 25 talents. *ib.* p. 54.

<sup>i</sup> *Prideaux*, 58.

tions to appease the wrath of the goddess: but this brought no relief to the sick queen, who soon after died, and left *Ptolemy* in great grief for her loss.

Though *Arfinoe* was older than *Ptolemy*, and too infirm to have any children when he married her, he retained a constant and tender passion for her to the last; and rendered all imaginable honors to her memory, after her death. He gave her name to several cities which he caused to be built, and erected obelisks to testify his love for her. Nothing could be more extraordinary than the design he formed of erecting a temple to her at *Alexandria*, in which it was projected to build a dome, whose vault being all arched with load-stone, should cause an image of *Arfinoe* made of steel, to be suspended in the air in the middle of the dome, by virtue of the attractive qualities of the load-stones. This design was the contrivance of *Dinocrates* a famous architect of these times: but both the king and the architect died before the experiment could be made.<sup>k</sup>

*Ptolemy* survived his beloved *Arfinoe* but a short time. He was naturally of a tender constitution; and the soft manner of life he led, contributed to the decay of his health. The infirmities of old age, and his affliction for the loss of a consort whom he loved to adoration, brought upon him a languishing disorder, which ended

<sup>k</sup> *Ib.* 60.

ended his days, in his great climacteric; being the 63d year of his age, and the 38th of his reign. He left two sons and a daughter, whom he had by his first wife *Arsinoe*. His eldest son was *Ptolemy Euergetes*, who succeeded him in the throne: The other was called *Lyfimachus*, which was the name of his maternal grandfather; and was put to death by his brother, for engaging in a rebellion against him. The name of the daughter was *Berenice*, whose marriage with *Antiochus Theos*, king of Syria, has already been related.<sup>k</sup>

*Ptolemy Philadelphus* had great and excellent qualities, which were counterpoised by some defects. His resentment against *Demetrius Phalereus* dishonored the beginning of his reign; and by putting two of his brothers to death, he was ironically called *Philadelphus*. He was much addicted to effeminate pleasures, and neglected to encourage the military virtues. However, he made an ample compensation for this neglect, by his encouragement of the arts and sciences, and his generosity to learned men, who resorted to him from all parts, and partook of his favour and bounty. Seven celebrated poets of that age are especially said to have lived in his court, who, from their number, were called the *Pleiades*, which are seven stars in the neck of the bull. These were *Aratus*, *Theocritus*, *Callimachus*, *Lycophron*,



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*phron*, *Apollonius*, *Nicander*, and *Philicus*. *Theocritus* wrote an idyllium, and *Callimachus* an hymn, in praise of *Philadelphus*; which have reached our time; as also have some of the works of *Aratus* and *Lycophron*. In his court likewise flourished *Aristarchus*, a learned grammarian; *Manetho*, the famous *Egyptian* historian, who dedicated his history to him; *Conon*, and *Hipparchus*, two celebrated mathematicians; *Zenodotus* of *Ephesus*, the first who corrected the works of *Homer*, as *Suidas* informs us; and *Aristophanes*, who, according to *Vitruvius*, read over all the books in the *Alexandrian* library, in the order they stood. *Zoilus* the critic came also to his court, and lived some time at *Alexandria*. He had written against *Homer*, whom all besides highly valued and admired: though his eminency this way was remarkable, it could not recommend him to *Ptolemy*; and for the same reason having drawn on him the aversion of all men, he at length died miserably: some say he was stoned; others that he was burnt to death; and others that he was crucified by *Ptolemy* for a crime he had committed deserving that punishment. As *Philadelphus* had abundance of wit, and his happy genius had been carefully cultivated by great masters, he always retained a peculiar taste for the sciences, but in such a manner as suited the dignity of a prince; for, instead of suffering them to engross his whole attention, he regulated his  
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propensity to those grateful amusements by prudence and moderation. To perpetuate this taste in his dominions, he erected public schools and academies at *Alexandria*, where they long flourished in great reputation. His intercourse with learned men, and his care to dignify the sciences, may be considered as the source of those measures he pursued, to make commerce flourish in his dominions, and in which attempt no prince ever succeeded more effectually than himself. This invited great multitudes of the neighboring nations to quit their native countries, and settle in *Egypt*; insomuch that this prince is said to have had in his dominions no fewer than thirty three thousand, three hundred, and thirty nine well peopled cities. *Ptolemy* was sensible, as an able politician, that the only sure expedient for extending his dominions, without any act of violence, was to multiply his subjects, and attach them to his government, by their inclination and interest; to cause the land to be cultivated in a better manner; to make arts and manufactures flourish; and, by many judicious measures, to augment the power of a prince and his kingdom, in the multitude of whose subjects consists his real strength. With this view, he built an incredible number of cities, repaired others, and granted many valuable privileges to all. To the old cities which he repaired, he gave new names; and particularly two of this last sort

were in *Palestine*: for there he rebuilt, on the west side of that country, a famous port on that coast called *Ace*; and, on the eastern side, that ancient city which is so often mentioned by the name of *Rabbab* of the children of *Ammon*. *Ace* he called, from one of his names, *Ptolemais*; and *Rabbab* he called *Philadelphia*, from the other of his names. The former of these is still in being; and, having recovered its old name, is called *Acon*, by which it is often mentioned, and is of very famous note in the histories of the holy war: but the *Turks* at present name it *Acre*. His principal object, was to secure to strangers all imaginable safety and freedom in his ports, without any impositions on trade, or the least intention of turning it from its proper channel, to make it subservient to his own interest; as he was persuaded, that commerce was like some springs, which soon cease to flow, when diverted from their natural course. These were views worthy of a great prince, and their durable effects were infinitely beneficial to his kingdom. They have even continued to our days, strengthened by the principles of their first establishment, after a duration of above 2000 years; opening a perpetual flow of new riches, and new commodities of every kind into all nations; drawing continually from them a return of voluntary contributions; uniting the east and west by the mutual supply of their respective wants; and establishing on

this

this foundation a commerce that has constantly supported itself, without interruption, from age to age. So that, when we trace this commerce up to its source, we shall be sensible that this prince ought to be considered not only as the benefactor of *Egypt*, but of all mankind in general, to the latest posterity: A title, though not so glaring, yet truly more glorious, than those which have been inconsiderately conferred on the great conquerors, and celebrated heroes, of remoter antiquity. He left so many other monuments of his magnificence behind him in cities, temples, and other public edifices built by him, that it afterwards grew into a proverb, when any work was erected, with more than ordinary sumptuousness, to call it *Philadelphian*. But notwithstanding the great expence he must have been at in all this, he died possessed of vast riches. Besides the two great fleets already mentioned, he maintained constantly in pay an army of 200,000 foot, and 40,000 horse: he had also 300 elephants, and 2000 armed chariots; with arms in his magazines for 300,000 men more, and all other necessary implements and engines for war: yet he left in his treasury 740,000<sup>1</sup> *Egyptians* talents in ready money;

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which

<sup>1</sup> No writers have attempted to calculate this great sum before us: but we compute, at a medium between *Bernard* and *Brerewood*, that the *Attic* drachm is 8d. sterling,

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which being reduced to *English* money make a prodigious sum: for every *Egyptian* talent contained 7500 *Attic* drachms, which is 1500 drachms more than an *Attic* Talent. This shows how vast his revenues must have been, which he had the art to make the most of: therefore, *Athenæus* justly called him the most opulent prince of his age: and *Appian* says, that as he was the most magnificent and generous of all kings in expending his treasure; so he was of all the most skilful and industrious of raising it.<sup>m</sup>

Year of the world 3758.  
Before Christ 246.

P T O L E M Y III. surnamed *Euergetes*, or the benefactor, succeeded his father; and, in the beginning of his reign, prepared to make war with *Antiochus Theos* king of *Syria*, who had repudiated *Berenice* the sister of this *Ptolemy*. *Antiochus* was poisoned by his other wife *Laodice*, whose son *Seleucus Callinicus* ascended the throne, and put *Berenice* and her son to death. The cities of *Asia Minor* sent a body of troops to join an army assembled by *Ptolemy*, to revenge the death of his sister. *Ptolemy* put himself at the

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ling, 7500 of which make the *Egyptian* talent, equal to 250l. sterling: so that 740,000 of those talents must be equal to the amazing sum of one hundred and eighty five millions sterling. A sum almost sufficient to purchase the whole fee simple of the kingdom of *England*, if we credit lord *Bolingbroke*.

<sup>m</sup> *Prideaux*, II. p. 61.—62 *Rollin*, IX, 62.—65;  
*Univ. Hist.* IX, 386. — 388,

the head of this army, and was as successful as he could desire in the satisfaction of his just resentment. He soon made himself master of all *Syria* and *Cilicia*; and caused *Laodice* to suffer death; after which he passed the *Euphrates*, and conquered all the country as far as *Babylon* and the *Tigris*. He would certainly have subdued all the provinces of the *Syrian* empire, if the progress of his arms had not been interrupted by a sedition which obliged him to return to *Egypt*.<sup>n</sup> However, he left *Antiochus*, one of his generals, to govern the provinces he had taken on the west side of mount *Taurus*; and *Xantippus* was entrusted with those taken on the east side of it: while *Ptolemy* marched back to *Egypt*, loaded with the spoils of the conquered provinces.<sup>o</sup>

This prince carried off forty thousand talents of silver, equal to eighteen millions sterling; a prodigious quantity of gold and silver vessels; and two thousand five hundred statues, among which were many of the *Egyptian* idols carried out of *Egypt* by *Cambyfes*. *Ptolemy* restored these statues to their former temples, which greatly endeared him to the *Egyptians*, who were then of all nations the most bigotted to their idolatrous worship, and so highly valued  
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<sup>n</sup> *Justin*, lib. XXVII. c. i.

<sup>o</sup> *Prideaux*, II, 63. *Rollin*, IX, 65.—68.



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this action of their king, in thus bringing back their gods again to them, that in acknowledgment thereof they honoured him with the name of *Euergetes*, which signifies a *benefactor*.<sup>p</sup> All this happened exactly as it was foretold by the prophet *Daniel*, who in that prophecy tells us, that after the king's daughter of the south with her son should be cut off, and he that strengthened her in those times, that is her father, should be dead, "out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate," that is *Ptolemy Euergetes*, who springing from the same root with her, as being her brother, stood up in the estate of *Ptolemy Philadelphus* his father, whom he succeeded in his kingdom: and that he "shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail: and shall also carry captives into *Egypt* their gods with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold, and he shall continue more years than the king of the north: so the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and return into his own land."<sup>r</sup> The king of the south is the king of *Egypt*; and the king of the north is the king of *Syria*; for both are there so called in respect of *Judaea*, which, lying between these two countries, hath *Egypt* on the south, and *Syria* on the north.<sup>s</sup> After

<sup>p</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>r</sup> *Daniel*, ch. xi. v. 6. — 9.

this

<sup>s</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 60.

this the holy prophet proceeds through the rest of the chapter, to foreshew all the other most remarkable events that were brought to pass in the transactions of the succeeding times of these two races of kings, till the death of *Antiochus Epiphanes*, the great persecutor of the *Jews*.<sup>t</sup>

On his return from this expedition, *Ptolemy* took *Jerusalem* in his way, and there, by many sacrifices to the God of *Israel*, paid his acknowledgments for the victories he had obtained over the king of *Syria*; <sup>u</sup> chusing rather to offer up his thanks to him, than to the gods of *Egypt* for them. The reason of which very probably might be, that being shewn the prophecies of *Daniel* concerning them, he inferred from thence, that he owed them only to that God whose prophet had so fully predicted them,<sup>w</sup> 289 years before they happened.

When *Ptolemy Evergetes* went on this expedition into *Syria*, his queen *Berenice*, who loved him tenderly, being apprehensive of the dangers to which he would be exposed in the war, made a vow to consecrate her hair, in the fineness of which the chief of her beauty consisted, in case he returned safe and

<sup>t</sup> *Ibid.* 61.    <sup>u</sup> *Josephus against Apion*, b. II. p. 763.

<sup>w</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 64. This was like what happened to *Alexander*, when he visited *Jerusalem*. See this vol. p. 51. 52.

and unhurt. Therefore, on his coming back again with safety and full success, she fulfilled her vow, by cutting off her hair, and offered it up in the temple which *Ptolemy Philadelphus* had erected to his favorite wife *Arfinoe*, on the promontory of *Zephyrium* in *Cyprus*, by the name of the *Zephyrian Venus*. This consecrated hair was soon either lost, or contemptuously flung away by the priests; at which *Ptolemy* was much offended: but *Conon* of *Samos*, a flattering mathematician then at *Alexandria*, to ingratiate himself with the king, gave out, that this hair was caught up into heaven; and he pointed out seven stars near the tail of the lion, not till then taken within any constellation; declaring that those were the consecrated hair of the queen. Several other astronomers concurred in the flattery; from whence *Coma Berenices*, or *the hair of Berenice*, became one of the constellations, and is so to this day. *Callimachus* made an hymn upon this hair, which was translated by *Catullus*, and is extant among his poetical works.\* *Conon* perpetuated the act of devotion more than could have been done by all the reliques in the world; and, at the same time, did an acceptable service to all succeeding astronomers. This constellation is of some bigness, and contains a quantity of stars very well proportioned to the

\* *Prideaux. Rollin, IX. 70.*

the space which it occupies in the heavens. It is represented in the schemes of the heavens in form of a cluster of hair tied up at one end, and flowing loose at the other. It is situated between the lion, the little lion, the great bear, the greyhounds, bootes, and virgo; being behind the tail of the lion, and at some distance from the tail of the bear.<sup>y</sup>

As soon as *Ptolemy* was returned to *Egypt*, *Seleucus* prepared a great fleet on the coasts of *Syria* to reduce the revolted cities of *Asia*. However, his enterprize was ineffectual; for his whole navy was destroyed by a violent tempest; as if heaven itself, says *Justin*, had made the winds and waves the ministers of its vengeance on this parricide.<sup>z</sup> *Seleucus* and some of his attendants were almost the only persons who were saved, and with great difficulty escaped naked from this calamitous wreck. But this dreadful stroke contributed to the re-establishment of his affairs: for the cities of *Asia* which had revolted, out of the abhorrence they had  
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<sup>y</sup> *Hill's* "*Urania*, or compleat view of the heavens; containing the ancient and modern astronomy, in form of a dictionary," under the article *Coma Berenices*, published in 1754. The constellation is of very considerable use, and is easily distinguished by the eye. *Tycho Brahe* mentions only fourteen stars in the *Coma Berenices*: *Hervellius* raises the number to twenty one; and *Flamsteed* makes it forty three. *Ibid.* <sup>z</sup> *Justin*, lib. XXVII. c. 2.

of him for the murder of *Berenice* and her son, on hearing of his great loss, and thinking him sufficiently punished, changed their hatred into compassion, and declared for him again.<sup>a</sup>

*Seleucus* being restored to the best part of his dominions by this revolution, he prepared a great army against *Ptolemy* to recover the rest. But in this attempt he had no better success than in the former; for he was defeated by *Ptolemy*, who cut off the greatest part of his troops. *Seleucus* escaped to *Antioch* from this misadventure with as few of his followers as from the former: as if he had recovered his former power, only to lose it a second time, with the greater mortification, by a fatal vicissitude of fortune.<sup>b</sup>

After this second blow received by *Seleucus*, the cities of *Smyrna* and *Magnesia* in *Lower Asia*, out of the affection which they bore to him, entered into a league to join all their power and strength for the support of his interest and royal majesty; which they caused to be engraven on a large column of marble. “ This very marble, says the learned dean

<sup>a</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>b</sup> Lætus igitur malis suis, et damnis ditior redditus, veluti par viribus, bellum Ptolemæo infer: sed, quasi ad ludibrium tantum fortunæ natus esset, nec propter aliud opes regni receperet, quam ut amitteret, victus prælio, non multo quam post naufragium comitator, trepidus Antiochiam confugit. *Ibid.*

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dean *Prideaux*, is now standing in the theatre-yard at *Oxford*, with the said league engraven on it in *Greek* capital letters still very legible; from whence it was published by me among the *Marmora Oxoniensia* about forty years since.<sup>c</sup> It was brought out of *Asia* by *Thomas* earl of *Arundel* in the beginning of the reign of king *Charles* the first, and was given with other marbles to the university of *Oxford* by *Henry* duke of *Norfolk* his grandson in the reign of king *Charles* the second.”<sup>d</sup>

*Seleucus* prevailed on his brother *Antiochus* to join him with some troops which he had assembled in the *Lesser Asia*; and this occasioned a peace between *Ptolemy* and *Seleucus* for ten years: but it kindled a war between the two brothers, which had like to have proved destructive to both.<sup>e</sup> *Seleucus* at last prevailed; and *Antiochus* fled to *Egypt*, where he was slain by thieves.

*Ptolemy Euergetes* enjoyed full peace, and applied himself to the cultivating of learning in his kingdom, and enlarging the *Alexandrian* library, the care of which he entrusted to *Eratoſthenes* the *Cyrenian*, whom he invited from *Athens* for that purpose. He compiled a catalogue of all the kings that

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reigned

<sup>c</sup> As the edition we take this from was in 1718, this must have been in 1678.

<sup>d</sup> *Prideaux's Connect.*

II. p. 65.

<sup>e</sup> *Justin*, l. XXVII. c. ii. iii.



reigned at *Thebes* in *Egypt* with the years of their reigns from *Menes*, or *Misraim*, who first planted *Egypt* after the flood, down to the time of the *Trojan* war. It contains a series of 38 kings reigning in a direct line of succession, and is still extant in *Syncellus*. Dean *Prideaux* says, “our learned countryman, sir *John Marsham*, hath made good use of it in settling the *Egyptian* chronology. It is one of the noblest and most venerable monuments of antiquity that is now extant; for it was extracted out of the ancientest records of that country at the command of *Ptolemy Euergetes*; and there is nothing in profane history that begins higher. It is probable this extract was made to supply the defect of *Manetho*, whose catalogue of the *Thebean* kings of *Egypt* doth not begin but where this of *Eratosthenes* ends.”<sup>f</sup>

But *Ptolemy*, after he had made peace with *Syria*, mostly applied himself to the enlarging of his dominions southward; and he extended them a great way down the *Red Sea*; making him-

<sup>f</sup> *Prideaux* II. 68. *Syncellus*, p. 91—147. See our vol. I. p. 159. The authors of the *Ancient Universal History* have the above extract from dean *Prideaux*, in vol. IX. p. 391. Yet they pay no respect to the learned author from whence they took it, perhaps, because he was a *modern*. But this is not all; for the next four pages, and indeed many others, are almost literally taken from the same author, without once mentioning his name. We are sorry to say this; but it is truth.

himself master of all the coasts of it both on the *Arabian*, as well as the *Ethiopian* side, even down to the streights, through which it dischargeth itself into the southern ocean.<sup>g</sup>

*Onias* the high-priest of the *Jews* had neglected to pay the usual tribute to the kings of *Egypt*, which was 20 talents, or 9000 l. sterling, and the arrears were grown so high that *Ptolemy* peremptorily demanded the money: but he was pacified by the prudent conduct of *Joseph*, who was nephew to the high-priest, and became a great favourite with the king.<sup>h</sup>

*Ptolemy* assisted *Cleomenes* king of *Sparta* against *Antigonus* king of *Macedon*: but *Cleomenes* was defeated at *Selasia*, and obliged to fly into *Egypt*, where he found an honorable reception.<sup>i</sup> *Ptolemy* assured him he would send him into *Greece*, with such a fleet, and a supply of money, as should be sufficient to re-establish him on the throne: but *Ptolemy* died before he could accomplish his promise to *Cleomenes*.<sup>k</sup> He had reigned over *Egypt* twenty-five years; and was the last king of that race who governed himself with any temper or virtue; all that after succeeded being monsters of luxury and vice.<sup>l</sup> He was well versed in all the branches of learn-

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ing,

<sup>g</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 75.

<sup>h</sup> *Joseph*, *Antiq.* l. XII.

e. iii. iv.

<sup>i</sup> *Rollin*, IX. 145.

<sup>k</sup> *Ibid.* p. 152.

<sup>l</sup> *Prideaux*, 75.

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ing, having been brought up by the famous *Aristarchus*; and in his youth he wrote historical commentaries, which were in great repute.<sup>m</sup>

Year of the  
world 3783.  
Before Christ  
221.

PTOLEMY IV. called PHILOPATOR, succeeded his father, and proved a most profligate and vicious prince. *Justin* tells us, that he was ironically called *Philopator*, that is, *the lover of his father*, because he poisoned him.<sup>n</sup> He had not been long on the throne, before he added to that parricide the murder of his mother *Berenice*, and of *Magas* his brother; which was soon followed by the death of *Cleomenes* king of *Sparta* by the same measures of wickedness and barbarity.<sup>o</sup>

*Sosibius* was chief minister of state to *Ptolemy*, and communicated the design of cutting off *Magas* to *Cleomenes*, who dissuaded him from it, and on that account was thrown into prison. But *Cleomenes* got loose, and assembled his few *Spartans* together, who excited the people to assume their liberty: but not succeeding in this attempt, *Cleomenes*, and all his followers slew themselves in the streets

<sup>m</sup> *Univ. Hist.* IX. 395.

<sup>n</sup> Egyptum, patre ac matre interfectis, occupaverat Ptolemæus, cui, ex facinoris crimine, cognomentum *Philopator* fuit. *Justin.* l. XXIX. c. i.

<sup>o</sup> *Prideaux's Connect.* II. 75.

streets of the city. *Plutarch* in his life of *Cleomenes* hath given a full narrative of this matter; and so hath *Polybius* in the fifth book of his history.

*Antiochus* king of *Syria*, surnamed *the Great*, took advantage of the succession of such a voluptuous and profligate prince to the throne of *Egypt*, and thought it a proper time for him to attempt the recovery of *Syria*. He first reduced *Seleucia*, which had been garrisoned by the *Egyptians* 27 years; and then marched his army into *Cæle-Syria*. *Tyre* and *Ptolemais* were delivered up to him by *Theodotus*, who despised *Ptolemy*, and resolved to find a sovereign more worthy of his services. In these two cities were the magazines which *Ptolemy* had laid up for the use of his army, with a fleet of forty ships. He also seized upon *Damascus*, the capital of that province; and then returned to *Seleucia*; having appointed *Theodotus* governor of all the conquered places.<sup>p</sup>

The next year, *Antiochus* prepared all things both by sea and land for a vigorous invasion: he gave the command of his fleet to *Diognetus*, and put himself at the head of his army. *Ptolemy* had put his army under the command of *Nicolaus*, and entrusted his fleet to the care of *Perigenes*. *Nicolaus* marched to mount *Libanus*. where he seized all the

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passes between that chain of mountains and the sea. The fleets coasted the armies on both sides; so that their naval as well as land-forces met at the passes which *Nicolaus* had seized. While *Antiochus* attacked *Nicolaus* by land, the fleets began to engage; so that there was a general engagement both by sea and land at the same time. Neither party had the superiority at sea: but *Antiochus* had the advantage on land, and forced *Nicolaus* to retire to *Sidon*, after losing 4000 men. *Antiochus* could not besiege him there, and marched into *Galilee* and *Gilead*, which he reduced to his obedience, and then took up his winter-quarters at *Ptolemais*.<sup>9</sup>

As soon as the spring begun, both parties again took the field. *Ptolemy* was himself at the head of his army, which consisted of 70,000 foot, 5000 horse, and 73 elephants, which he led from *Pelusium* over the desarts that parted *Egypt* from *Palestine*, and encamped at *RAPHIA*, a town lying between *Rhinocorura* and *Gaza*. *Antiochus* met him there with an army of 62,000 foot, and 102 elephants. The two kings drew out all their forces for a decisive battle, and both rode before the front of their respective armies to animate their troops. *Arfino*,<sup>r</sup> who was sister and wife to *Ptolemy*, accompanied him

<sup>9</sup> *Prid. 81. Rollin, 174.*

<sup>r</sup> *Justin* calls her *Eurydice*.

him in this action; and not only exerted herself in encouraging the soldiers before the fight, but also continued with her husband in the battle, throughout all the heat and dangers of it. The event of the battle was, *Antiochus* commanding the right wing, routed the opposite wing of the enemy; but pursuing them too far, in the interim, the other wing of the enemy having beaten his left wing, fell upon the main body then left naked, and utterly broke them before he could return to their assistance. This obliged *Antiochus* to retreat, first to *Raphia*, and next to *Gaza*, with the loss of 10,000 men killed, and 4000 taken prisoners: after which, he abandoned all his conquests, and returned to *Antioch* with the remainder of his troops. This battle at *Raphia* was fought at the same time that *Hannibal* vanquished *Flaminius* at the lake of *Thrasimenus* in *Hetruria*.<sup>s</sup>

All *Cæle-Syria* and *Palestine* chearfully submitted to *Ptolemy*, who made a progress through those provinces, and visited *Jerusalem*, where he viewed the temple, and offered sacrifices to the God of *Israel*. But he was not content with viewing this temple only from the outer court, beyond which it was not lawful for any Gentile to pass, and would have pressed into the sanctuary itself, even

<sup>s</sup> *Prid.* 82. *Rollin*, 175. *Justin*, l. XXX. c. i,



even into the Holy of Holies, where none but the high-priest was to enter, and that only once a year, on the great day of expiation. The high-priest, priests, levites, and people, in vain opposed this rash and impious resolution. The king entered the inner court; but as he was passing farther to go into the temple itself, he was smitten from God with such a terror and confusion of mind, that he was carried out of the place in a manner half dead. On this he departed from *Jerusalem*, filled with great wrath against the whole nation of the *Jews*; and on his return to *Alexandria* severely put it into execution.<sup>t</sup>

The inhabitants of *Alexandria* were of three ranks: 1st, the *Macedonians*, who were the original founders of the city, and had the first right in it: 2dly, the mercenary soldiers, who came there to serve in the army: and, 3dly, the native *Egyptians*: but, by the favor of *Alexander the Great*, and *Ptolemy Soter*, the *Jews* were enrolled among the first rank, and had all the privileges of original *Macedonians* conferred on them.<sup>u</sup> *Philopator* resolved to deprive them of this right, and to publish a decree, whereby they were degraded from the first rank, and caused them

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<sup>t</sup> *Prideaux*, 83.

<sup>u</sup> *Strabo*, lib. XVII. p. 797. *Joseph. Antiq.* l. XII. c. i. p. 269.

to be enrolled in the third rank among the common people of *Egypt*; as also that they should have the mark of an ivy leaf impressed upon them by an hot iron, on pain of slavery and death. The ivy leaf was the badge of his god *Bacchus*, from whom the *Ptolemies* pretended to derive their pedigree, and therefore *Philopator* himself was marked with this badge; for which reason they gave him the nickname of *Gallus*, because the priests called *Galli* were so marked. However, he permitted such of the *Jews* as would be initiated into the heathen religion, to retain their former privileges: but of the many thousands of the *Jewish* race, which then dwelt at *Alexandria*, there were found only 300 who accepted of this condition, and forsook their god to gain the favor of their king. The rest stood all firm to their religion, and held the apostates in abhorrence, which so much enraged the king, that he took a resolution of destroying them all, that is, not only those *Jews* that were of *Alexandria*, but all others of that nation throughout all his dominions; purposing to begin with those of *Egypt*, then to proceed against the inhabitants of *Judæa* and *Jerusalem*, and extirpate the whole nation. Accordingly, he ordered all the *Jews* in *Egypt* to be brought in chains to *Alexandria*. They were brought, and shut up in the hippodrome, a large place without the city, where the people used to assemble

to see the horse-races and other shews. The king was determined to expose them there for a spectacle to be destroyed by his elephants, who were brought forth three days successively for that purpose, and on the third day the king was present, when the elephants, to the number of 500, made drunk with wine mingled with frankincense, that they might with the more rage execute what was intended upon those people, were let loose upon them: but, instead of falling upon the *Jews*, they turned their rage all upon those who came to see the shew, and destroyed great numbers of them. Several appearances were seen in the air, which much frightened the king, and all the spectators. All which manifesting the interposal of a divine power in the protection of those people, *Philopator* durst not any longer prosecute his rage against them, but ordered them all again to be set free; and fearing the divine vengeance upon him in their behalf, for the appeasing and diverting of it, he restored them to all their privileges, rescinding and revoking all his decrees which he had published against them. *Josephus* gives us no account in his antiquities of all this matter: but the whole history of this persecution, and the deliverance of the *Jews* from it, is at large related in the third book of the *Maccabees*.<sup>w</sup>

*Ptolemy*

<sup>w</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 87. *Stackhouse*, p. 1081,

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*Ptolemy* concluded a peace with *Antiochus*, who gave up *Cæle-Syria* and *Palestine*.<sup>x</sup> If *Ptolemy* had pursued the advantage of his victory at *Raphia*, he might have deprived *Antiochus* of the whole *Syrian* empire; and the *Egyptians* were so much incensed at such a disadvantageous peace, that they broke into a rebellion. *Polybius* tells us, that there was such a war: but neither he, nor any other author, gives us any account of the event of it. However, we may conclude, that *Philopator* suppressed this insurrection, because he retained his royal dignity and power without any diminution. *Eusebius* says, that 40,000 *Jews* were destroyed about this time in *Egypt*; and it seems most likely they suffered on account of this rebellion, in which they might be concerned.<sup>y</sup>

The *Romans* sent ambassadors to renew their ancient friendship and alliance with *Egypt*; with such presents as shewed the happy simplicity which in those ages prevailed among the *Romans*. But *Philopator* went on in his old course of life, giving himself wholly up to his lusts, and voluptuous delights. He was absolutely

<sup>x</sup> *Cæle-Syria*, that is, the *Hollow-Syria*, contained that part of *Syria* which lay between the mountains *Libanus* and *Antilibanus*; and *Palestine*, all that country which was formerly the inheritance of the children of *Israel*: the maritime parts of both were what the *Greeks* called *Phœnicia*.

<sup>y</sup> *Prideaux*, 89.

absolutely governed by *Agathoclea* his concubine, and *Agathocles* her brother, who was his catamite. Drinking, gaming, and lasciviousness, were the whole employments of his life. *Arfinoe* was murdered, though the wife and sister of the king, and notwithstanding she had a son by him, who succeeded to the throne. The people were exasperated, and obliged *Sofibius* to quit the ministry, in which he was succeeded by *Tlepolemus*, a young nobleman of great military distinction. But *Ptolemy Philopator* died soon after; having worn out a very strong body by his intemperance and debaucheries. He was very little above twenty when he came to the throne, and he sat on it seventeen years.<sup>z</sup> He was one of the most wicked and debauched princes that ever swayed a scepter; yet he had some virtues. He liberally contributed to assist the *Rhodians* after the famous earthquake which threw down their colossus, arsenal, and great part of their walls: he sent them 600 talents of silver, or 270,000 l. sterling; and a million of artabes, or bushels of wheat. *Athenæus* tells us, he was an encourager of learning; and built a magnificent temple in honor of *Homer*, in which the statue of that great poet was placed.

PTOLEMY,

<sup>z</sup> *Livy*, l. 27. c. iv. *Justin*, l. XXX. c. i. ii. *Prideaux*, ll. 92. *Rolli* IX. 274.

PTOLEMY V. surnamed EPIPHANES, or the *illustrious*, was but five years old at the death of his father, which was concealed by *Agathoclea* and her brother till they had plundered the palace of many valuable effects. When this was done, they called together the *Macedonians* to a general council, and *Agathocles*, having the young king in his arms, implored their protection for him, against the ambition of *Tlepolemus*. This provoked the laughter and the rage of all that heard it. The young king was placed on the throne in the public *Hippodrome*, where *Agathocles*, *Agathoclea*, and *Oenauthe* their mother, were put to death in his presence, as by his order; after which, all their creatures were cut off, and the guardianship of the young king was committed to the charge of *Sesibius*, the son of that *Sesibius* who had been the ruling minister of the court during the last three reigns.<sup>a</sup> No minister was ever more cunning, or more corrupt, than this old *Sesibius*, who made no scruple of committing the blackest crimes, if they conduced to his ends. *Polybius* imputes to him the murder of *Lyfimachus*, son of *Ptolemy*; and of *Arsinoe*, daughter of that *Lyfimachus*: of *Magas*, son of *Ptolemy*, and of *Berenice*, daughter of *Magas*: of *Berenice*,  
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<sup>a</sup> *Justin*, l. XXX. c. ii. *Fridaux*, II. 93.



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*nice*, mother to *Ptolemy Philopator*; of *Cleomenes*, king of *Sparta*; and of *Arfinoe*, daughter of *Berenice*. It is surprising, after a conduct of so much cruelty and inhumanity in his administration, that he should support himself so long, and come to a peaceable end at last.<sup>b</sup>

*Antiochus* king of *Syria*, and *Philip* king of *Macedon*, thinking to serve themselves of the advantage they had by the death of *Philopator*, and the succession of an infant king, entered into a league to divide his dominions between them; agreeing that *Philip* should have *Caria*, *Lybia*, *Cyrene*, and *Egypt*; and *Antiochus* all the rest.<sup>c</sup> Accordingly, *Antiochus* marched into *Cœle-Syria* and *Palestine*, which submitted to him.

*Scipio* having defeated *Hannibal* in *Africa*, and thereby put an end to the second punic war with victory and honor, the name of the *Romans* began to be famous every where; and therefore the *Egyptian* court, finding themselves much distressed by the league made between *Philip* and *Antiochus* against their infant king, and the usurpations which had thereon been made by them on his provinces, sent an embassy to *Rome*, to pray their protection; offering them the guardianship of their king, and the regency of his dominions during his minority: and, to induce them

<sup>b</sup> *Rollin*, IX. p. 278.    <sup>c</sup> *Justin*, l. XXX. c. iii.

them to accept hereof, alledged, that the deceased king had recommended both to them at his death. The *Romans* thinking this would enlarge their fame, complied with what was desired, and took on them the tuition of the young king.<sup>d</sup>

The *Romans* sent three ambassadors to the kings of *Syria* and *Macedon*, to let them know, that they had taken on them the tuition of the young *Egyptian* king, and to require them to desist from invading his dominions; otherwise they should be obliged to make war upon them for his protection. After the ambassadors had delivered this message to both kings, M. *Æmilius Lepidus*, who was one of them, according to the instructions he had received from the senate at his first setting out, went to *Alexandria*, to take on him in their name the tuition of the young king; where having regulated his affairs, as well as the then circumstances of them would admit, he appointed *Aristomenes*, an *Acarnian*, to be his guardian and chief minister, and then returned to *Rome*. This *Aristomenes* was an old experienced minister of that court; and having undertaken this charge, he managed it with great prudence and fidelity.<sup>e</sup>

*Aristomenes* recruited the army with the best soldiers he could get, and took 6000 stout *Ætolians* into pay. He sent *Scopas*, with an

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<sup>d</sup> *Ibid.* c. ii.

<sup>e</sup> *Ibid.* c. iii.

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army to recover *Cæle-Syria* and *Palestine*: but he was defeated by *Antiochus* at *Paneas*, near the fountains of the river *Jordan*, and obliged to fly to *Sidon*; where being shut up with 10,000 of his men, he was besieged by *Antiochus*, till he was forced by famine to surrender on terms of life only, and he and his men were sent thence stript and naked.<sup>f</sup>

*Antiochus* was in the full possession of *Cæle-Syria* and *Palestine*, and projected the same in *Lesser-Asia*; which induced him to send *Eucles* to *Alexandria*, with proposals of a marriage between *Cleopatra* his daughter, and king *Ptolemy*, to be consummated as soon as they should be of an age fit for it; promising the restoration of the conquered provinces on the day of the nuptials, by way of dower with the young princess. The *Egyptians* accepted this offer, and the contract was fully agreed to on these terms.<sup>g</sup>

*Scopas* thought to make himself master of *Egypt*, and usurp the authority over it, by murdering the young king: but the plot was discovered by *Aristomenes*, who put *Scopas* and all his accomplices to death, and dismissed the *Ætolians* from the service. When this conspiracy was fully suppressed, the king was fourteen years of age; and, according to the custom of that country, was declared  
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<sup>f</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 95. *Joseph. Antiq.* l. XII. c. iii.

<sup>g</sup> *Prid.* 97. *Rollin*, IX. 303.

to be out of his minority, and his inthronization, which the *Alexandrians* called his *anacleteria*, was celebrated with great pomp and solemnity; whereby the government was put into his hands, and he actually admitted to the administration of it.<sup>h</sup> All things went well while *Aristomenes* had the direction of affairs: but the king soon grew weary of that able and faithful minister, whom he put to death. The remainder of his reign was all turned into disorder and confusion, and his kingdom suffered the same, or rather more by it, than in the worst times of his father.<sup>i</sup>

In the eleventh year of *Ptolemy Epiphanes* died *Eratoſthenes*, the second library-keeper at *Alexandria*, and was succeeded in his office by *Apollonius Rhodius* the author of the *Argonautics*.

*Antiochus the Great*, about that time, married his daughter *Cleopatra* to *Ptolemy*, and gave him up the provinces of *Cæle-Syria* and *Palestine*.<sup>k</sup> But *Antiochus* was soon afterwards killed in the province of *Elimais*, where he had plundered the temple of *Jupiter Belus*.<sup>l</sup> The same year, *Cleopatra* bore her husband a son, who reigned after him in *Egypt* by the name of *Ptolemy Philometor*. She had also an-

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other

<sup>h</sup> Rollin, XI. 28. 130.      <sup>i</sup> Prideaux, II. 100.

<sup>k</sup> Joseph. Antiq. l. XII. c. 3.

<sup>l</sup> Justin, l. XXXII, c. 2.

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other son by him, and a daughter called after her own name.

The *Egyptians* were unable to bear the grievances which they suffered under the bad administration of their king, and attempted to depose him: but he extricated himself out of these troubles by making *Polycrates* his chief minister, who was a wise and valiant man. The revolvers were suppressed, and many of them put to death, among whom were some of the principal nobility.<sup>m</sup>

*Ptolemy* maintained a strict friendship with the *Romans*, during the whole time of his reign; and he also carefully cultivated the friendship of the *Achæans*. He then proposed to make war upon *Seleucus* king of *Syria*: but he was poisoned by some of his attendants, which put an end to his project and life in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, and twenty-ninth of his age.<sup>n</sup>

PTOLEMY VI. called *Philometer*, succeeded his father *Epiphanes* at six years of age, and his mother *Cleopatra* was declared regent, who governed the kingdom for the space of eight years with great care and prudence, when she died. Upon her death the regency fell to *Lennaëus* a nobleman of that court, and *Eulæus* an

<sup>m</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 115.      <sup>n</sup> *Ibid.* 116.      *Rollin*, X. 162. *Usser. Annal.* p. 290.

an eunuch, who had the breeding up of the young king. As soon as they had entered on the administration, they made a demand of *Cœle-Syria* and *Palestine* from *Antiochus Epiphanes*, the son of *Antiochus the Great*, which occasioned a war between *Egypt* and *Syria*. *Cleopatra* was mother to the one king, and sister to the other, whereby she kept the matter from making a breach between them as long as she lived: but the new regents demanded the restoration of those provinces which *Antiochus the Great* had wrested out of the hands of *Ptolemy Epiphanes*, after the battle of *Panœas*.<sup>o</sup>

*Ptolemy Philometor* was then fourteen years old, and was declared to be out of his minority. Great preparations were made at *Alexandria* for his inthronization; and *Antiochus* sent *Apollonius*, one of the prime nobles of his court, to be present at the solemnity, and to congratulate the young king thereon. On the return of this ambassador, *Antiochus* found that war was intended against him, and therefore he put his frontiers in a thorough posture of defence. Instead of expecting the war in his own territories, he carried it into those of his enemy. He was met by the forces of *Ptolemy* between mount *Casius* and *Pelusium*, where they came to a battle, in which *Antiochus* having got the victory,



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tory, he took care to fortify that border of his dominions, and took up his winter quarters at *Tyre*,<sup>p</sup> where *Ptolemy Macron*, who was governor of *Cyprus* for king *Ptolemy*, delivered up that island into the hands of *Antiochus*;<sup>q</sup> and, in return, was made by him governor of *Cæle-Syria* and *Palestine*.

As soon as the season of the next year would permit, *Antiochus* again invaded *Egypt* both by sea and land. He obtained another victory over the *Egyptians* on their frontiers, took *Pelusium*, and from thence made his way into the heart of the kingdom.<sup>r</sup> In this last overthrow of the *Egyptian* army, it was in his power to have cut them all off to a man: but instead of pursuing this advantage, he took care to put a stop to the executing of it, and rode about the field in person after the victory to forbid the putting of any more to death. This clemency so far reconciled and endeared him to the *Egyptians*, that on his farther march into the country they all readily yielded to him. He made himself master of *Memphis*, and all the other parts of *Egypt* except *Alexandria*, which alone held out against him.

*Philometer* voluntarily surrendered himself into the hands of *Antiochus*, who treated him

<sup>p</sup> *Justin*, l. XXXIV. c. 2.

<sup>q</sup> II *Maccabees*, X. 13.

<sup>r</sup> *Ibid.* V. 1. I *Maccabees*, I. 15—20.

him with great respect; for they eat at the same table, and conversed together as friends. *Antiochus* pretended for some time to take care of the interest of this young king his nephew, and to manage the affairs of the kingdom as his tutor and guardian: but when he had made himself master of the country under this pretence, he seized all to himself, and miserably pillaged all parts where he came, whereby he vastly enriched himself and his army with the spoils of *Egypt*.<sup>s</sup>

During all this time, *Philometer* conducted himself with a very mean spirit, keeping himself while in arms, at as great a distance from all danger as he was able, and never shewing himself in the army that was to fight for him: and afterwards in a slothful cowardice submitting to *Antiochus*, whom he suffered to take so large a kingdom, without attempting to preserve it;† which was not so much owing to his want of natural courage or capacity, as to the effeminate education in which he was bred up by his tutor *Eulaeus*, who corrupted him with all manner of luxury, to render him unfit for government.

*Antiochus* marched out of *Egypt* into *Judæa*, took *Jerusalem*, slew 40,000 of its inhabitants, and sold as many for slaves.<sup>u</sup>

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<sup>s</sup> *I Maccab. I. 19.*

<sup>t</sup> *Justin, I. XXXIV. c. 2.*

<sup>u</sup> *Joseph. Antiq. l. XII. c. 7. XIII. c. 1.*

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He sacrilegiously plundered the temple to the value of eighteen hundred talents of gold, or 12,960,000l. sterling,<sup>w</sup> and returned to *Antioch* with the spoils of *Judæa* as well as of *Egypt*, which both together amounted to an immense treasure.<sup>x</sup>

The *Alexandrians* finding *Philometer* fallen under the power of *Antiochus*, and by him in a manner wholly deprived of the crown, looked on him as altogether lost to them; and therefore having the younger brother with them, they put him on the throne, and made him their king instead of the other.<sup>y</sup>

On this occasion, the young adopted king took the name of *Ptolemy Euergetes* II. which was soon changed to that of *Kakergetes*; the former signifying *beneficent*, and the latter *benevolent*:<sup>z</sup> but afterwards they gave him the name of *Physcon*, that is, the *fat-guts*, or *great-bellied*, by reason of the great and prominent belly, which by his luxury and gluttony he afterwards acquired; and by this name he is most commonly mentioned by historians. On his thus ascending the throne, *Cineas* and *Cumanus*

<sup>w</sup> The Hebrew talent of gold was 7200l. and the Alexandrian talent of gold was the same. *Prideaux's preface* to vol. I. p. xxi. xxii.

<sup>x</sup> II *Maccab.* v. 22. 23.

<sup>y</sup> *Prideaux*, II. p. 132.

<sup>z</sup> *Rollin*, X. 212. XI. 114. XII. 226.

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was made his prime ministers, and to them was committed the care of restoring the broken affairs of the kingdom.<sup>a</sup>

*Antiochus* made a third expedition into *Egypt*, under pretence of restoring the deposed king; but in reality to subject the whole kingdom to himself. He vanquished the *Alexandrians* in a sea-fight near *Pelusium*, entered the country with a great army, and marched directly towards *Alexandria* to lay siege to the place. The ambassadors who were then at *Alexandria* on embassies from several of the *Grecian* states to the *Egyptian* court interposed their mediation in vain. *Antiochus* asserted his title to the provinces of *Cæle-Syria* and *Palestine*, and invested *Alexandria*; on which *Ptolemy Evergetes* and *Cleopatra* his sister, who were then shut up in the town, sent ambassadors to the *Romans* to represent their case, and pray relief.<sup>b</sup> The senate, moved with their remonstrances, and persuaded that it would not be for the interest of the *Romans* to suffer *Antiochus* to attain such an height of power, resolved to send an embassy to *Egypt* to put an end to the war. *Caius Popillius Lænas*, *Caius Decimus*, and *Caius Hostilius*, were appointed for this important negociation. Their instructions were, that they should first wait upon *Antiochus*, and afterwards on *Ptolemy*; should order

<sup>a</sup> *Prideaux*, 132.

<sup>b</sup> *Justin*, l. XXXIV. c. 2.

order them, in the name of the senate, to suspend all hostilities, and terminate the war; and that, should either of the parties refuse a compliance, the *Romans* would no longer consider them as their friend and ally. As the danger was imminent, three days after the resolution had been taken in the senate, they set out from *Rome* with the *Egyptian* ambassadors.<sup>c</sup>

The resistance which *Antiochus* met with from the *Alexandrins* obliged him to change his plan, and conclude that it would be his interest to keep up an enmity between the two brothers, which might weaken them to such a degree, that he might swallow both. With this view he withdrew from *Alexandria* to *Memphis*, and there seemingly again restored the whole kingdom to *Philometer*, excepting only *Pelusium*, which he retained in his hands; that having this key of *Egypt* still in his keeping, he might thereby again enter the kingdom when matters should be ripe for his design: and having made these dispositions he returned to *Antioch*.<sup>d</sup>

*Ptolemy Philometer* was now roused from his luxurious sloth by the misfortunes which he had suffered in these revolutions, and had penetration enough to see what *Antiochus* intended: therefore, as soon as *Antiochus* was gone, he invited his brother to an accom-

<sup>c</sup> Rollin, X. 215.

<sup>d</sup> Livy, l. 45. c. 11.

commodation, which was effected by the means of their sister *Gleopatra*, and an agreement was made upon terms that the two brothers should jointly reign together. *Philemeter* then returned to *Alexandria*, and peace was restored to *Egypt*, much to the satisfaction of the people, especially of the *Alexandrians*, who greatly suffered by the war.<sup>e</sup>

The two brothers sent ambassadors into *Greece* to get auxiliary forces from thence to guard against *Antiochus*, who fell into a great rage when he heard of their reconciliation, and, in the 13th year of the reign of *Philemeter*, made a fourth invasion upon *Egypt*, in which he purposed, without owning the interest of either of his nephews, to suppress them both, and make an absolute conquest of the whole kingdom. He subdued all the country as far as *Memphis*, and marched towards *Alexandria*: but he met the *Roman* ambassadors in his way, which put a stop to his farther progress, and totally dashed all the designs which he had been so long carrying on for the reduction of *Egypt* to his yoke.<sup>f</sup>

On the arrival of *Antiochus* at *Leufine*, a place within four miles of *Alexandria*, he was met there by the *Roman* ambassadors. On the sight of *Pepilius*, he put forth his hand to embrace him as his old friend and acquaintance,

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<sup>e</sup> *Justin*, l. XXXIV. c. 2.

<sup>f</sup> *Livy*, l. 45. c. II.



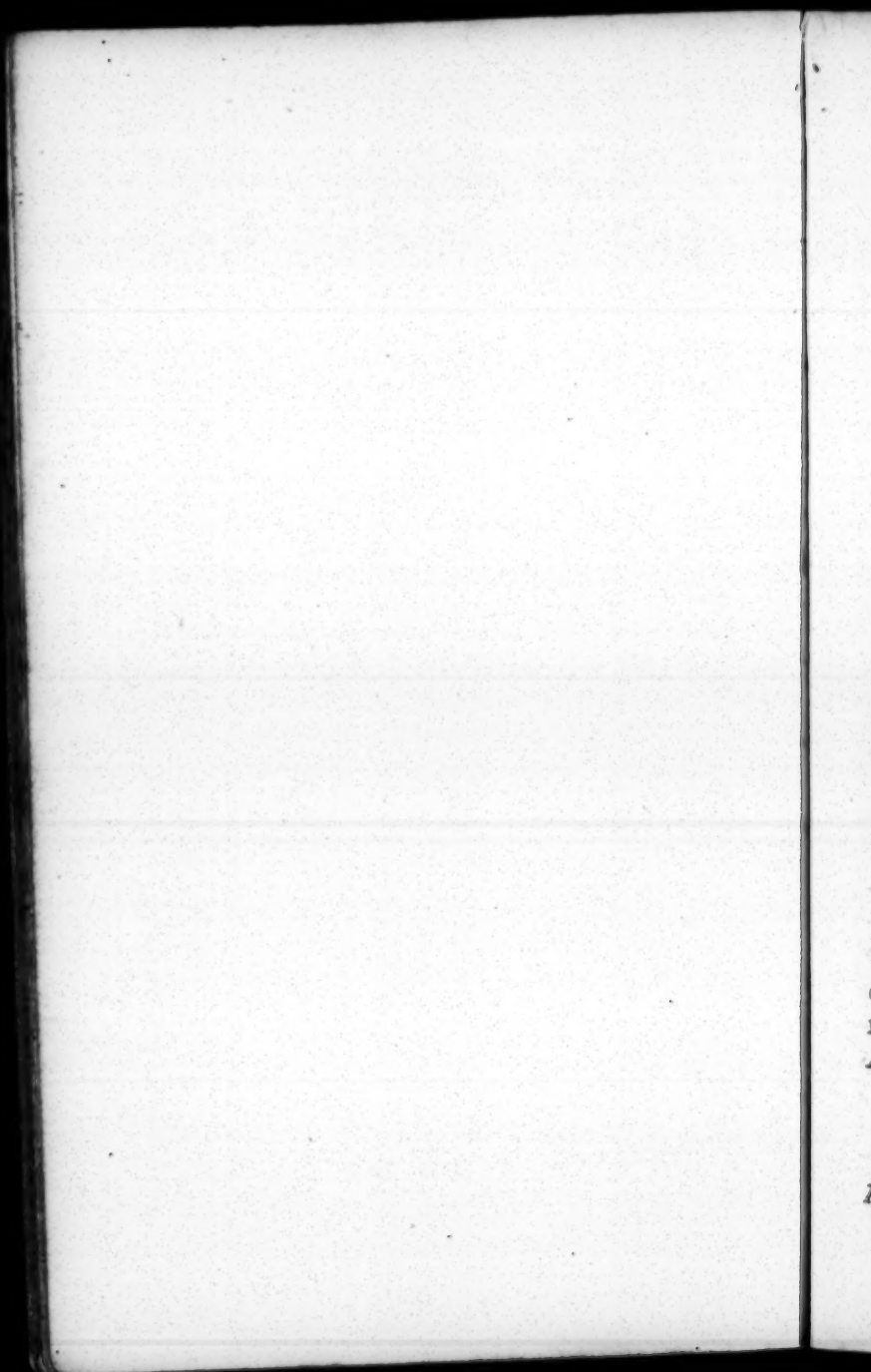
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tance, with whom he had contracted an intimate friendship and familiarity, while he was an hostage at *Rome*. *Popillius* refused the compliment, and told him, that the public interest of his country must take place of private friendship; that he must first know, whether he was a friend or an enemy to the *Roman* state, before he would own him as a friend to himself; and then delivered into his hands the tables, in which were written the decree of the senate, and required him to give an immediate answer thereto. *Antiochus* having read the decree, told *Popillius* he would consult with his friends about it, and speedily give him the answer they should advise. But *Popillius* insisting on an immediate answer, drew a circle round the king in the sand with the staff which he had in his hand, and required him to give his answer before he stirred out of that circle; at which strange and peremptory way of proceeding *Antiochus* being startled, after a little hesitation yielded to it, and told the ambassador that he would obey the command of the senate; whereon *Popillius* accepted his embraces, and acted according to his former friendship with him.<sup>2</sup> That which made him so bold as to act with him after this peremptory manner, and the other so tame as to yield thus patiently to it, was the news which they had

<sup>2</sup> *Plutarch's Apotegm.*, p. 93.



*The Interview of the Roman Ambassador  
Popullius, with King Antiochus in Egypt.*



had a little before received of the great victory which the *Romans* had obtained over *Perseus* king of *Macedonia*: for *Paulus Æmilius* having now vanquished that king, and thereby added his kingdom to the *Roman* empire, the name of the *Romans* carried such weight with it, as created a terror in all the neighbouring nations; so that none of them after this cared to dispute their commands; but were glad to maintain peace, and cultivate a friendship with them, on any terms.<sup>h</sup>

After *Popillius* had thus sent *Antiochus* back into *Syria*, he returned with his colleagues to *Alexandria*, where they ratified and fully fixed the terms of agreement between the two brothers. The ambassadors then sailed to *Cyprus*, and caused an entire restoration of that island to be made to the *Egyptian* kings, to whom it of right belonged. They then returned to *Rome*, and were followed by ambassadors from the two *Ptolemies* to thank the senate for the great benefit they had received from it.<sup>i</sup>

*Antiochus* again plundered *Jerusalem*, and finished an impious life by a miserable death;<sup>k</sup> while the two *Egyptian* kings quarrelled with each other, and *Physcon* drove *Philometer* from the throne. The latter em-

P 2

barked

<sup>h</sup> *Livy*, l. 45. c. 11, 12. *Justin*, l. 34. c. 3. *Val. Max.* l. 6. c. 4.

<sup>i</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 136.

<sup>k</sup> II. *Maccab.* c. 13. *Rollin*, X. 243.

barked for *Italy*, and landed at *Brundisium*, from whence he travelled to *Rome* on foot in a sordid habit, and with a mean attendance, to demand of the senate the necessary aid for replacing him on the throne. As soon as the senate heard of his arrival, they sent for him, and conducted him to lodgings suiting his royal dignity. When he had a day of audience, and made known his case, they immediately decreed his restoration, and sent *Quintus* and *Canuleius* as ambassadors with him to *Alexandria*, to see their decree executed; who reconducted him accordingly, and succeeded in negotiating an accommodation between the two brothers. *Lybia*, and the province of *Cyrene*, were assigned to *Phyſcon*: *Philiometer* had *Egypt*, and the isle of *Cyprus*. Each was declared independant of the other; and the treaty and agreement were confirmed with the customary oaths and sacrifices.<sup>1</sup>

*Phyſcon* was not contented with the share allotted him, and went to *Rome* to solicit the senate that he might have *Cyprus* also assigned him, which was granted, and two ambassadors were sent with him to *Philometer* to see it done. *Philometer* refused to submit to this decision, and the *Romans* declared him their enemy: but *Philometer* defeated *Phyſcon*, and took him prisoner at *Lapitho* in *Cyprus*, where he pardoned him every thing, and even resto-

<sup>1</sup> *Prideaux*, II. p. 175. *Rollin*, XI. 131.

restored him *Lybia* and *Cyrene*; whereby the war between the two brothers was wholly ended, and never after revived; for the *Romans* were ashamed any more to oppose themselves against so generous a clemency.<sup>m</sup>

*Demetrius Soter*, the son of *Seleucus Philopator*, put *Antiochus Eupator* to death, and thereby became king of *Syria*: but he was defeated and killed by *Alexander Balus*, who then mounted his throne, and married *Cleopatra* the daughter of *Philometer*,<sup>n</sup> who soon after suspected that *Alexander* had a design upon his life, and in consequence took his daughter from him, gave her to young *Demetrius*, and engaged to re-establish him on the throne of his father, which he soon performed. *Philometer* defeated *Alexander* near *Antioch*, and the latter fled to *Zabdiel*, an *Arabian* prince, who cut off his head, and sent it to *Ptolemy*: but this prince died a few days after, of a wound he had received in the battle. Thus *Alexander* king of *Syria*, and *Ptolemy Philometer* king of *Egypt*, died about the same time; the first after a reign of five years, and the second after one of thirty-five. *Demetrius*, who had attained the crown by this victory, assumed the surname of *Nicator*, or the *Conqueror*: but the succession of *Egypt* was attended with more difficulties.<sup>o</sup>

P 3

*Ptolemy*

<sup>m</sup> *Prid.* 202.

<sup>n</sup> *Rollin*, XI, 144.

<sup>o</sup> *Ib.* 148. *Prid.* II, 212.





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*Ptolemy Philometor* shewed himself an excellent prince, as soon as he withdrew himself from those who had the care of his education. He took the name of *Philometor* to testify his gratitude to his mother *Cleopatra* for her prudent and careful administration during his minority. He permitted the *Jews* to build a temple in *Egypt*, like that of *Jerusalem*;<sup>p</sup> with a grant for *Onias* and his descendants to be always high-priests in it. It was built within the *Nomos* or prefecture of *Heliopolis*, about 24 miles from *Memphis*, where had formerly stood an old temple of *Bubastis*, which was then wholly neglected and demolished: and all this came to pass exactly as the prophet *Isaiab* had foretold.<sup>q</sup> Divine service was therein daily carried on in the same manner and order as in the temple at *Jerusalem*; till at length, after the destruction of *Jerusalem* and its temple, this temple was also first shut up, and afterwards wholly demolished with the city of *Onion*, in which it stood, by the command of *Vespasian* the Roman emperor, about 224<sup>r</sup> years after it had been first built.

*Ptolemy*

<sup>p</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 207.

<sup>q</sup> *Isaiab*, XIX. 18.—21.

<sup>r</sup> *Josephus de Bello Judaico*, l. VII. c. 30. *Prid.* 209.

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*Ptolemy VII.* surnamed *Physcon*,  
 or *tun-bellied*,<sup>s</sup> succeeded his brother in all his dominions; in which he was at first opposed by *Cleopatra* the sister and wife of the late king, by whom she had a son: but affairs were accommodated by the mediation of *Thermus* the *Roman* ambassador. It was agreed, that *Physcon* should marry *Cleopatra*, and educate her son, who should be declared heir to the crown, which *Physcon* should possess during his life. He had no sooner married the queen, and taken possession of the crown, than even in the very day of the nuptials, he killed the young prince in her arms.<sup>t</sup>

Year of the  
 world 3859.  
 Before Christ  
 145.

By this time, the *Romans* had made *Macedonia* a province. Two years after this, *Metellus* gained several advantages over the *Acheans*, and *Mummius* took *Corinth*, which he destroyed, and all *Greece* became a *Roman* province by the name of *Achaia*.<sup>u</sup>

*Physcon*

<sup>s</sup> *Athenæus*, out of the 7th book of *Posidonius* the *Stoic*, tells us, that *Physcon* had a great head, and a broad face, extremely deformed and shocking, upon a short squat body, with a belly enormously prominent. *Athen.* l. XII. c. 27. This agrees with *Justin*, who says, “*Erat enim et vultu deformis, et statura brevis, et sagina ventris non homini, sed belluæ, similis.*” *Justin*, l. XXXVIII. c. 8.

<sup>t</sup> *Rollin*, XI. 149. *Justin*, l. XXXVIII. c. 8.

<sup>u</sup> *Rollin*, XII. 237.

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*Phyſcon* who had affected to aſſume the name of *Euergetes*, or the *Benefactor*, was now called by the *Alexandrians* *Kakergetes*, or the *Malefactor*, on account of his great wickedneſs; for he was the moſt iniquitous and cruel, as alſo the moſt vile and deſpicable, of all the *Ptolemies* that reigned in *Egypt*. As he began his reign with the murder of his nephew, he continued it with the ſame cruelty and wickedneſs, putting many others to death almoſt every day; ſome upon ſuſpicions, ſome for ſmall faults, and others for none at all.<sup>w</sup>

*Cleopatria* brought him a ſon, whom he called *Memphritis*, from the ceremonies he was diſcharging at the time of his birth at *Memphis*: but the king incurred both the hatred and contempt of his people, by his barbarous cruelties, and monſtrous miſmanagements. He murdered and baniſhed not only ſuch as were devoted to *Philometor*, but alſo thoſe who had been firmly attached to himſelf. He let looſe his foreign mercenaries to commit all murders and rapines upon the oppreſſed and terrified *Alexandrians*, who fled into other countries, and left their city in a manner deſolate. Therefore, that he might not reign over empty houſes, the king invited all ſtrangers to come and repeople the place: and as great multitudes flocked there, he

<sup>w</sup> *Juſtin*, l. XXXVIII. c. viii. *Prid*, 214.

he gave them habitations, and admitted them to all the rights of the former citizens; by which means the city was again replenished.\*

Many learned men, and other professors of arts and sciences, were among those that fled out of *Egypt*; by which means learning was revived in *Greece*, *Asia Minor*, the isles, and in all other places where they went. The continual wars between the successors of *Alexander*, had almost extinguished the Sciences in all those countries, and they would have been entirely lost, if they had not found protection under the three first *Ptolemies* at *Alexandria*. Thus learning revived throughout what we call the whole east, exactly in the same manner as they took new birth in the west, about 1590 years afterwards, when *Constantinople* was taken by the *Turks*.

While foreigners were flocking to repopulate *Alexandria*, three illustrious ambassadors arrived there from *Rome*. These were *Publius Scipio Africanus*, junior, *Spurius Mummius*, and *L. Metellus*, who were received by the king in great state: but he found the greatest temperance and moderation in those eminent *Romans*. When the ambassadors had taken a full view of *Alexandria*, and the state of affairs there, they sailed up the *Nile*  
to

\* *Prid.* p. 209, *Justin*, *ibid.*

to see *Memphis*, and other parts of *Egypt*; whereby they thoroughly informed themselves of the great number of cities, and the vast number of inhabitants that were in that country; as also of the strength of its situation, the fertility of its soil, and the many other excellencies and advantages of it: upon the whole, they observed it to be a country that wanted nothing but a prince of capacity and application to make it a very potent and formidable state. It was therefore to their satisfaction that they found *Physcon* entirely destitute of every qualification necessary for such an undertaking. He appeared quite despicable to them, as the deformities of his body were equal to those of his soul: and over this vile corpulent carcass he wore a garment so thin and transparent, that all his deformities were seen through it, and also those parts which it is one of the main ends of garments to cover and conceal. From this deformed monster the ambassadors passed over to *Cyprus*, and from thence proceeded to execute their commission in all the other countries to which they were sent.<sup>y</sup>

*Physcon* went still on in the same steps of luxury, cruelty, and tyranny. He divorced his wife *Cleopatra*, and married her daughter, who was also called *Cleopatra*, whom

<sup>y</sup> *Prid.* 231. *Justin, ibid.*

whom he had first deflowered by violence. He also treated the new inhabitants of *Alexandria* as arbitrarily as he had done the old ones; and therefore thinking he might best secure himself from them by cutting off their young men, who were the strength of the place, he caused his mercenaries to surround them in the *Gymnasium*, as they were at their public exercises, and put them all to death. The people were so much exasperated against him for this horrid massacre, that they all rose in a general tumult, and set fire to his palace with intent to have burnt him in it: but he made his escape to *Cyprus*, with *Cleopatra* his young wife, and *Memphitis* his son. When he arrived there, he heard that the *Alexandrians* had put the government of the kingdom under *Cleopatra* his divorced wife; upon which, he hired an army of mercenaries to make war against both.<sup>z</sup>

*Phyſcon* had made one of his sons governor of *Cyrene*, and fearing the *Alexandrians* would make him king, he sent for him to *Cyprus*, where he put him to death: by which shocking barbarity the *Alexandrians* were so much farther enraged, that they pulled down and demolished all his statues wherever erected in their city. *Phyſcon* imagined this was done at the instigation of *Cleopatra* his divorced queen; therefore, to be revenged upon

<sup>z</sup> *Prid.* 240. *Justin.* *ibid.*



upon her, he caused *Memphitis*, a very hopeful and beautiful young prince he had by her, to be slain before his face; then cutting his body in pieces, he put them all into a box, with his head, thereby to shew to whom they belonged; and sent it with them inclosed therein to *Alexandria* by one of his guards, who was ordered to present it to the queen on the day then approaching, which was to be celebrated as the anniversary of her birth. Accordingly, it was presented to her in the midst of the festivity, which soon turned it into lamentation, and excited that horror and detestation against the tyrant, as so monstrous and unparalleled a cruelty deserved.<sup>a</sup>

The *Alexandrians* raised an army under the command of *Marfyas*, whom the queen had made her general to defend the country against *Physcon*, who got together an army, and sent it against the *Alexandrians* under the command of *Hegelochus* his general, who defeated *Marfyas*, took him prisoner, and sent him in chains to *Physcon*: but the tyrant shewed him mercy, as he was tired of his own cruelty.<sup>b</sup>

*Cleopatra* fled to her daughter, who was queen of *Syria*; and *Physcon* returned to *Alexandria*, where he reassumed the government. He married his daughter *Tryphæna* to *Antiochus Gripus* the son of his niece *Cleopatra*,

<sup>a</sup> *Prid.* 242. *Justin, ibid.*

<sup>b</sup> *Ibid.*

para, and placed him on the throne of Syria. Ptolemy soon after died at Alexandria, in the 67th year of his age; having reigned 29 years from the death of his brother Philometer: but no reign was ever more tyrannical, or abounded with greater crimes. He left three sons; Apion, whom he had by a concubine; Lathyrus, and Alexander, whom he had by his niece Cleopatra. The kingdom of Cyrene he bequeathed to Apion; and left Egypt to his widow Cleopatra, in conjunction with one of her sons, whom she should think fit to chuse.<sup>c</sup> It is strange that such a savage prince should be the patron of learned men; yet we are told, he allowed Panaretus, who was a man of great learning, a yearly pension of twelve talents, equal to 5400 l. sterling.<sup>d</sup>

In this reign, Jesus the son of Sirach, a Jew of Jerusalem, came and settled in Egypt, where he translated the book of Jesus his grandfather out of Hebrew into Greek, for the use of the hellenistical Jews; which is the same we now have among the apocryphal scriptures in our English bible by the name of Ecclesiasticus. The antients called it *the treasure of all virtue*: but the Hebrew original is now lost, and the English translation hath been made from the Greek.

VOL. III.

Q

PTOLEMY

<sup>c</sup> Justin, l. XXXVIII. c. ix, l. XXXIX, c. iii.

<sup>d</sup> Jer. Annal. l. 303.

Year of the  
world 3887.  
Before Christ  
117.

PTOLEMY VIII. surnamed LATHYRUS, had been banished to *Cyprus* by his father, and would have been kept from the crown by his mother if it had not been for the people, who obliged her to send for him, and admit him as king to reign in copartnership with her. But before she would suffer him to be inaugurated at *Memphis*, according to custom, she obliged him to repudiate his eldest sister *Cleopatra*, whom he passionately loved; and to marry *Selene* his youngest sister, who was not so acceptable to him.<sup>e</sup>

At his coronation he took the name of *Soter*: *Atheneus* and *Pausanias* call him *Philometer*: but *Lathyrus* is the name by which he is chiefly distinguished in history; though as it was a nick-name, it was never owned by him. *Lathyros*, in *Greek* signifies a pea, which the *Latins* call *Cicer*, from whence the family of the *Ciceros* had their name, because of an excrescence which one of their ancestors had on his nose like a pea: but for what reason *Ptolemy Lathyrus* had this name is no where mentioned. Perhaps it was on account of such an excrescence somewhere upon him in constant view, either on his nose or face.<sup>f</sup>

*Cleopatra*

<sup>e</sup> *Justir*, l. XXXIX, c. iii.

<sup>f</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 250. *Rollin*, XI. 186.

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*Cleopatra* whom *Lathyrus* had divorced, disposed of herself in marriage to *Antiochus Cyzicenus*, half-brother to *Antiochus Gripus*, king of *Syria*. She brought him an army for her dowry, to assist him against *Gripus*, who defeated *Cyzicenus*; upon which *Cleopatra* took refuge in *Antioch*, where she was cruelly and impiously killed by the orders of her own sister *Tryphæna*. She had taken sanctuary in a temple, where her hands were cut off by soldiers while she embraced the altar, and she expired uttering many curses against the parricides who were the authors of her death.<sup>§</sup> But her death was soon revenged by *Cyzicenus*, who got *Tryphæna* in his power, and sacrificed her to the ghost of his murdered wife.

*Cleopatra* queen of *Egypt*, who was mother to both these sisters, expressed no regard or concern for either of them. Her mind was actuated only by ambition, and all her thoughts were employed how she might best support her authority. She made her son *Alexander* king of *Cyprus*; then charged *Lathyrus* with an attempt against her life, and drove him out of the kingdom; after which she made *Alexander* king in the room of his brother, who fled to *Cyprus*, and was forced to be content with that government.<sup>h</sup>

Q 2

PTOLEMY

§ *Ibid.* 251. 188. *Justin, ibid.*

h *Prideaux, II.* 252. 289. *Justin, I.* XXXIX. c. iv.

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Year of the  
world 3897.  
Before Christ  
107.

PTOLEMY IX. or *Alexander I.*  
While *Lathyrus* ruled in *Cyprus*,  
he passed from thence into *Pha-*  
*nicia* with an army of 30,000  
men, to oppose *Alexander Jannæus* king of  
the *Jews*, who had invaded that country  
with 50,000 men. The two armies engaged  
at *Asphos* near the *Jordan*, and *Lathyrus* ob-  
tained a complete victory: but he was soon  
after obliged to return to *Cyprus* by his mo-  
ther *Cleopatra*, who brought a great army  
from *Egypt* into *Phœnicia*, took *Ptolemais*,  
and drove *Lathyrus* out of that country; <sup>i</sup>  
being apprehensive if he should make him-  
self master of it, he would thereby grow  
strong enough to recover *Egypt*. <sup>k</sup>

*Cleopatra* on her return to *Alexandria* married  
*Selene*, whom she had taken from *Lathyrus*,  
to *Antiochus Gripus*; which unnatural and  
cruel usage so much terrified her son *Alexan-*  
*der*, that he withdrew and left the kingdom,  
choosing rather to live in banishment with  
safety, than to reign with so wicked and  
cruel a mother in the continual danger of his  
life. He was with great difficulty persuad-  
ed to return to her again: but she soon grew  
weary of his joint authority, and laid de-  
signs against his life, to get the whole regal  
power in her own hands. *Alexander* was ap-  
prized of her design, which he prevented by  
put-

<sup>i</sup> *Joseph. Antiq. l. XIII. c. xx. xxi.*

<sup>k</sup> *Prid. II. 293.*

putting her to death. She was a monster of a woman, who had spared neither mother, sons, nor daughters, and had sacrificed every thing to the ambitious desire of reigning. She was punished in this manner for her crimes; but by a crime equal to her own.<sup>1</sup>

As soon as the *Alexandrians* found that the mother died by the parricide of the son, they drove him from the throne, and sent to *Cyprus* for *Ptolemy Lathyrus*, whom they restored to the kingdom, which he held afterwards without interruption to the end of his life. *Alexander* got some ships to attempt a return; but was met by *Chæreas*, and perished in the fight. Before this time, *Ptolemy Apion*, to whom *Physcon* had left the kingdom of *Cyrene*, died without issue, and gave that kingdom by his last will to the *Romans*, who, instead of accepting it, gave all the cities their liberties, which filled the country with petty tyrants, till *Lucullus* remedied these disorders, and the whole was reduced into the form of a *Roman* province.<sup>m</sup>

Soon after *Ptolemy Lathyrus* had been replaced on the throne, a considerable rebellion broke out in the *Upper-Egypt*, where the rebels were defeated in a great battle, and took refuge in the city of *Thebes*, which

Year of the  
world 3915.  
Before Christ  
89.

Q3

<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.* 301. *Rollin*, XI. 201.

<sup>m</sup> *Justin*, l. xxxv. c. ix. *Prid.* 297. 301.



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which *Lathyrus* took after a siege of three years. He gave it up to be plundered by the enraged soldiery, who treated it so rigorously, that from being the greatest and richest city till then in *Europe*, it was almost reduced to nothing.<sup>n</sup>

*Lathyrus* survived the ruin of *Thebes* but a short time; having reigned from the death of his father thirty-six years; of which he reigned eleven with his mother in *Egypt*, eighteen in *Cyprus*, and seven alone in *Egypt* after his mother's death. He was succeeded by *Cleopatra* his daughter and only legitimate child. Her proper name was *Berenice*: for it is to be observed, that as all the males of this family had the common name of *Ptolemy*, so all the females of it had that of *Cleopatra*, and besides had proper names to distinguish them from each other. Thus *Selene* was called *Cleopatra*; so were two of her sisters; and thus *Berenice* received that name according to the usage of her family: the observing of this will remove many obscurities and difficulties in the *Egyptian* history.<sup>o</sup>

*Sylla* was then perpetual dictator at *Rome*, and sent *Alexander* to take possession of the crown of *Egypt*, on the death of his uncle *Lathyrus*, as his nearest heir male; for he was the son of that *Alexander* who had put his mother to death, and had attached him to  
*Sylla,*

<sup>n</sup> *Rollin*, XI. 202. *Prid.* 308. <sup>o</sup> *Ibid.* 309.

*Sylla*, who was then the dispenser of law to the world. The *Alexandrians* had put *Cleopatra* upon the throne six months before he arrived among them. However, to compromise the matter, and avoid displeasing *Sylla*, it was agreed that *Alexander* should marry *Cleopatra*, and reign jointly. But *Alexander*, either disliking the lady, or not liking to have a partner in the government, put her to death nineteen days after their marriage, and reigned alone fifteen years. Murther and parricide were then so little esteemed to be crimes, that they seem to have grown into fashion among princes and princesses.<sup>p</sup>

PTOLEMY X. called ALEXANDER II. was soon opposed by the two sons of *Selene* the sister of *Lathyrus*, who went to *Rome* to solicit the senate in their behalf; but their solicitations were ineffectual. The *Alexandrians* were at last weary of their king *Alexander*, took up arms, expelled him, and called in *Ptolemy Auletes*, the illegitimate son of *Lathyrus*. *Alexander* applied to *Pompey* for aid, which was out of his power to grant; and the exiled king went to *Tyre*, in hopes of a more favorable conjuncture: but none offered, and he soon after died there. Before his death he made a will, whereby he declared the *Roman* people his heirs. The

Year of the  
world 3923.  
Before Christ  
81.

*Romans*

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*Romans* were then at war with *Mitbridates VI.* king of *Pontus*, which made them defer accepting this important succession, though they would not renounce the will.<sup>1</sup>

PTOLEMY XI. surnamed AULETES, or the *Piper*, because he valued himself so much upon playing well on that instrument, that he disputed the prize of it, in the public games. He was also called *Dionysius Noes*, or the *New Bacchus*; because he often imitated the effeminacies of the bacchanals.

This prince is reckoned to have as much exceeded all that reigned before him of his race in the effeminacy of his manners, as his grandfather *Phyſcon* did in the wickedness of them.<sup>2</sup> Having only a contested title to the crown, he needed a declaration of the *Roman* senate in his favor, to confirm his right. *Julius Cæsar* was then consul, and obtained from *Ptolemy Auletes* near 6000 talents, or 1,296,000*l.* sterling, for the admitting him into alliance with the *Romans*, and granting him the confirmation of his crown.<sup>3</sup> The revenues

<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.* 213.      <sup>2</sup> *Prid.* II. 329.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* 348. *Suetonius* in *Julio Cæsare*, cap. 54. p. 34. *Edit. Amsterodami.* The *Roman* talent, we reckon at 216*l.* sterling, as in *Prideaux*, *pref.* vol. I. p. xxii. whereby we make it 133,500*l.* more than in the *Univ. Hist.* v. IX. p. 437.

revenues of *Egypt* were twice that sum, yet the king could not immediately raise it, without overtaxing his subjects, which gave them general discontent.

About this time, a most unjust decree was carried at *Rome*, by the vicious tribune *Clo-dius*, for deposing *Ptolemy* king of *Cyprus*, the brother of *Auletes*, seizing his kingdom for the republic, and confiscating all his effects. The *Alexandrians* pressed their king to demand that island as an old appendant of *Egypt*; which he declined, and they expelled him the kingdom.<sup>t</sup>

*Auletes* escaped to *Rhodes*, where he met the famous *Cato*, who was on his way to *Cyprus*, to put the decree in execution against that island. *Auletes* informed *Cato* he was then going to *Rome* to solicit the assistance of the senate for his restoration: but *Cato* blamed him for quitting that state of honor and happiness which he was possessed of in his kingdom, and thus exposing himself to the disgrace, trouble, and contempt which he must expect to meet with at *Rome*: he freely told him, that if all *Egypt* was to be sold, the purchase money would not be sufficient to satisfy the greedy expectations of the principal *Romans*; therefore he advised him to return into *Egypt*, and make up all differences with his people. *Cato* even offered

<sup>t</sup> *Prideaux*, 349—350.

ferred to go with him to assist him therein: but *Ptolemy* went forward to *Rome*, where he soon found by full experience all to be true that *Cato* had told him. The king was obliged to pay great attendance on the leading men of the common-wealth, and expend vast sums among them to procure them to favour his cause; and after all, when there was no more left to be extorted from him, an oracle was trumped up out of the *Sibylline* books, whereby it was pretended the *Romans* were forbidden to give him any help in this case. So that after he had solicited this matter a whole year at *Rome*, and expended vast sums in it, he was forced to depart from thence without success, and retire to *Ephesus*, into the temple of the goddess, to wait there the decision of his destiny.<sup>u</sup>

After the departure of *Auletes*, the *Alexandrians* placed his daughter *Berenice* on the throne, and sent an embassy into *Syria* to *Antiochus Asiaticus*, who by his mother *Selene* was the next heir male of the family, to invite him to come into *Egypt*, and there marry *Berenice* and reign with her: but the ambassadors on their arrival in *Syria* found him just deceased. However, they made the same proposal to *Seleucus* his brother, which he readily accepted. He proved a very fordid and base spirited man, which occasioned the

<sup>u</sup> *Ibid.* 351. *Rollin*, XII. p. 122.

the *Egyptians* to give him the nick-name of *Cybiofactes*, or *the Scullion*. It was this mean prince who sacrilegiously robbed the sepulchre of *Alexander the Great* of the coffin of massy gold, in which his body had been deposited by *Ptolemy I.* and put it into a coffin of glass. By this shocking kind of avarice he provoked *Berenice* to such a degree, that to be rid of a husband whom she justly loathed, she caused him to be put to death; and then married *Archilaus* high-priest of *Comana* in *Pontus*, who pretended to be the son of *Mithridates the Great*, though in fact he was only the son of his chief general. In *Cybiofactes* ended the whole race of *Seleucus*, and none of it were any more left to survive the loss of that empire, which they once possessed.<sup>w</sup>

*Gabinus* was then proconsul in *Syria*, and had passed with a body of *Roman* troops over the *Euphrates*, to reinstate *Mithridates* prince of *Parthia* in the kingdom of *Media*, from which he had been expelled by his brother: but *Ptolemy Auletes* came to him with letters from *Pompey*, their common friend and patron, who was declared consul for the ensuing year. By those letters he conjured *Gabinus* to exert all his power in favor of the proposals that prince should make him, with regard to his re-establishment

<sup>w</sup> *Ib.* 352—327.



ment in his kingdom. However dangerous that conduct might be, the authority of *Pompey*, and the hope of gain, made *Gabinus* begin to waver. The lively remonstrances of *Antony*, who sought occasions to signalize himself, and was besides inclined to please *Ptolemy*, whose intreaties flattered his ambition, fully determined *Gabinus*. This was the famous *Mark Antony*, who afterwards as *Triumvir* governed one third part of the *Roman* empire for several years. He accompanied *Gabinus* into *Syria* as his general of the horse, and in that service first signalized himself. Being a young man of great courage and a bold spirit, he was the chief promoter of an expedition into *Egypt*; though it was opposed by most of the other generals: but the opinion of *Antony* agreed best with the avarice of *Gabinus*, and carried it against them all. The more dangerous the enterprise, the more right *Gabinus* thought he had to make *Ptolemy* pay dear for it, who offered him ten thousand talents, or 4,500,000. sterling; the greatest part to be advanced immediately in ready money, and the rest as soon as he should be reinstated. *Gabinus* accepted the offer without any hesitation, repassed the *Euphrates*, crossed *Palestine*, and marched directly into *Egypt*.<sup>x</sup>

When

When the *Roman* army arrived on the borders of *Egypt*, *Antony* was sent with a body of horse to seize the passes, and open the way for the rest of the army to follow. As he was the chief adviser in this undertaking, so he was the most vigorous actor in it. He secured all the passes, and took *Pelufum*, which was the key of *Egypt* on that side; and the taking of it opened the way to conquer all.<sup>y</sup>

On this success of *Antony*, *Gabinus* marched with his whole army into the very heart of *Egypt*. This was in the middle of winter, when the *Nile* was lowest, and the country fittest for an invasion. *Archelaus* the husband of queen *Berenice* was a brave and sensible man, who omitted nothing that could be done for his defence. He had contracted an intimate friendship with *Gabinus*, while he served under *Pompey* as one of his lieutenants in the *Mithridatic* war: but the avarice of *Gabinus* took place of all regard to the friendship he had formerly with him.<sup>z</sup>

*Archelaus* stood his ground in several conflicts against the invaders: but the *Egyptians* being an effeminate dastardly sort of people, forward to mutiny against all orders of war, and backward to all acts of valor in it, he could make no work of it with such hands.

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<sup>y</sup> *Plutarch in Antonio.*

<sup>z</sup> *Ibid.*

He was over-powered by the well disciplined troops of the *Romans*, and at length finally vanquished in a battle, in which he was slain, valiantly fighting in the defence of the cause which he had undertaken. When *Antony* heard of his death, he had so much regard to the friendship that had been between them, that he commanded his body to be sought for on the field of battle, and caused it to be buried with a royal funeral, which ever after gained him the love of the *Egyptians*: and perhaps it was procured by a like favor from *Gabinus*, that his son was appointed to succeed him at *Comana*. But these after-acts were of too little value to make any amends for the loss of his kingdom and his life, of which he had been unjustly deprived.<sup>a</sup>

After *Archelaus* was slain all *Egypt* was soon reduced, and forced again to receive *Auletes*, who was thereon thoroughly restored to his kingdom, and put his daughter *Berenice* to death, for having worn his crown in the time of his exile: he also cut off most of the rich men that had been of the party against him; that he might raise the money promised *Gabinus* for his restoration, by the confiscation of their estates.<sup>b</sup>

*Gabinus* having accomplished all that he intended in *Egypt*, returned into *Syria*. He left

<sup>a</sup> *Prideaux*, II. p. 356.

<sup>b</sup> *Ibid.*

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left some of his *Roman* troops with *Auletes* to be his guard, who settled at *Alexandria*, where they soon exchanged the *Roman* manners for the *Egyptian*, and degenerated into the effeminacy of those among whom they dwelt.

*Auletes* filled his dominions with blood and slaughter, and the cowardly *Egyptians* patiently suffered these oppressions and violences; being kept in awe by the *Roman* garrison: but when a *Roman* soldier accidentally killed a cat, neither the fear of that garrison, nor the authority of *Ptolemy*, could prevent the people from tearing him to pieces upon the spot, to avenge the insult done to the gods of the country, among which number were cats.<sup>c</sup> *Diodorus Siculus*, who relates this insurrection, was an eye-witness of it.

*Ptolemy Auletes* died in the peaceable possession of his kingdom, about four years after his re-establishment, and thirty after he had first ascended the throne. He left two sons, who were both called *Ptolemy*; and two daughters, named *Cleopatra* and *Arfinoe*. *Auletes* bequeathed his crown to his eldest son and daughter, ordering them to be joined in marriage, according to the usage of their family, and both jointly together to govern the *Egyptian* kingdom. As they were both at that time very young, he committed

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them

<sup>c</sup> *Rollin*, XII. 129.

them to the care of the *Roman* senate; and *Eutropius* tells us, that a copy of his will was transmitted to *Rome*, where the people appointed *Pompey* guardian to the young prince, who some years after basely ordered him to be put to death. This was the *Cleopatra*, who afterwards became so famous, and had a great share in the civil wars of *Rome*; or rather so infamous for her lascivious amours, especially with *Marc Antony* the *Roman* triumvir.<sup>d</sup>

Year of the  
world 3953.  
Before Christ  
51.

PTOLEMY XII. and his sister  
CLEOPATRA, jointly succeeded  
to the throne of *Egypt*, pursuant  
to the will of their father *Auletes*.

That princess was then seventeen years of age, and her brother was younger. Little is known of the beginning of their reign: but we find that the minor king was under the tuition of *Pothinus* the eunuch, and of *Achillas* the general of his army, who deprived *Cleopatra* of her share in the sovereignty, that they might engross the whole power to themselves. Injured in this manner, she went into *Syria* and *Palestine*, where she raised a very considerable army, and led it herself into *Egypt*, to assert her right by force of arms. *Ptolemy* also assembled his forces, and marched against his sister. Both armies encamped near *Pelusium* and

<sup>d</sup> *Prideaux*, 365. *Rollin*, 130.

and mount *Casius*, where they observed the motions of each other, and were little inclined to venture an engagement; in which situation of affairs the unhappy *Pompey* arrived in *Egypt*, to seek protection from the victorious *Cæsar*.

While the *Romans* had established their mighty empire, by triumphing over the *Carthaginians*, *Greeks*, and *Gauls*, the liberty of the people was endangered by their own citizens. *Pompey* had been raised by *Sylla*, and succeeded to a great part of his power. He sometimes flattered the people, and sometimes the senate, to get himself established: but at last he was fixed to the latter by inclination and interest; at a time when he became very powerful by his conquests of the pirates of *Spain*, and all the east. *Cæsar* was resolved to be his equal, and turned to the side of the people, whom he had pleased in his consulate by proposing a division of lands, and the most popular laws he could invent. The conquest of *Gaul* brought the glory and power of *Cæsar* to the highest pitch. *Pompey* and he were united through interest, and afterwards broke through jealousy.<sup>c</sup> Their differences arose to that height, that they could no otherwise be de-

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cided

<sup>c</sup> *Bosquet's Introd. to Univ. Hist.* p. 88. 213. *Julia* was the daughter of *Julius Cæsar*, and married to *Pompey*; but was dead before these differences arose.



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cided but by the sword. *Cæsar* passed the *Rubicon*,<sup>f</sup> and thereby begun that war between them, which brought destruction upon them both, and at length ended in the total subversion of the *Roman* republic.<sup>g</sup>

*Cæsar* reduced all *Italy*, and *Spain*; then followed *Pompey* into *Greece*, where they came to a decisive battle in the plains of *Pharsalia* in *Thessaly*; in which *Pompey* was totally defeated, and fled to the island of *Lesbos*, where he had before sent *Cornelia* his wife, with *Sextus* his younger son, whom he took with him from *Lesbos* to *Cyprus*, and from thence came to *Egypt*, with some ships from *Cilicia*, in which were 2000 soldiers, and 60 *Roman* senators, who had escaped from *Pharsalia*.<sup>h</sup>

*Pompey* had been a great friend to *Auletes* the father of the young *Egyptian* king, and it was chiefly by the procurement of this illustrious *Roman* that he was restored to his kingdom; therefore, he expected to have been received and assisted with equal kindness by his son. *Pompey* on his drawing near to land sent messengers to *Ptolemy*, to require his protection and aid in his present distress. The king was then only thirteen years old; so that the two ministers, *Pothinus*

*nus*

<sup>f</sup> *Suetonius* in *Julio Cæsare*, cap. 31. *Rome's* *Lucan*, v. 1. p. 19.

<sup>g</sup> *Prideaux*, II. p. 365.

<sup>h</sup> *Cæsar's* comment. de bello civili, lib. III. c. lxxix. *Rome's* *Lucan*, v. II. b. VIII. p. 127—156.

mus and *Achillas*, consulted with *Theodotus* a rhetorician, who was preceptor to the king, and with some others, what answer to return. Some were for receiving him, others for rejecting him, and *Theodotus* was for neither: but in a pressing rhetorical speech set forth to them, that the only safe course they could take was to dispatch him. He argued in this manner: "should they receive him, *Cæsar* would be revenged on them for abetting his enemy: or should they reject him, and he again recover his power, he then would be revenged on them for this refusal; that therefore the only way to secure them from both was to cut him off: that this would make *Cæsar* their friend, and prevent *Pompey* from doing them any hurt as an enemy; for, said he, "dead men do not bite." This way of reasoning drew all the rest to his opinion, and they all resolved on it as the safest course they could take. *Achillas*, with *Septimius* a Roman commander, then in the Egyptian service, and some others, were sent to execute it. They went to take *Pompey* on board in a small boat, under pretence that great vessels could not approach the shore without difficulty. The troops were drawn up on the sea-side, as with design to honor *Pompey*, with *Ptolemy* at their head. *Pompey* embraced *Cornelia*, and entered the boat, where he was shamefully murdered in sight of his wife, and the young king. The  
mur-

murderers cut off his head, and threw his body on the strand, where it had no other funeral than what *Philip* one of his freed-men gave it, with the assistance of an old *Roman*, who was there by accident. They raised him a wretched funeral pile, and covered him with some fragments of an old wreck, that had been driven ashore. This was the end of *Pompey the great*, in the 59th year of his age.<sup>i</sup> We have already taken notice of the beautiful exclamations which the great *Roman* poet *Lucan* makes on this melancholy occasion, and beg leave to refer our readers to that part of our work.<sup>k</sup>

*Cornelia*

<sup>i</sup> *Cæsar. comment. ibid. cap. lxxv. p. 298. Lond. edit. 1736. Plutarch in Pompeio. Edmond's Observations on Cæsar's Commentaries, p. 122. Rowe's Lucan, V. 11. p. 169.*

<sup>k</sup> See our vol. II. p. 109. 110. To which we may here add what the poet farther says on the fate of *Pompey*. He makes *Pothinus* speak it, in his advice to *Ptolemy*.

“ Nor, *Pompey*! thou thyself shalt think it hard,  
If from thy aid, by fate, we are debarr'd.  
We follow where the gods, constraining lead;  
We strike at thine, but wish 'twere *Cæsar's* head.  
Our weakness this, this fate's compulsion call;  
We only yield to him who conquers all.  
What hopes thy fond mistaking soul betray'd,  
To put thy trust in *Egypt's* feeble aid!  
Our slothful nation, long diffus'd to toil,  
With pain suffice to till their slimy soil;  
Our idle force due modesty should teach,  
Nor dare to aim beyond its humble reach.

Shall

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*Cornelia* had seen *Pompey* massacred before  
her eyes; and it is easier to imagine the  
con-

Shall we resist where *Rome* was forc'd to yield,  
And make us parties to *Pharsalia's* field?"

*Reeve's Lucan*, b. VIII. v. 707.—721.

"Can then *Egyptian* souls thus proudly dare!  
Is *Rome*, ye gods! thus fall'n by civil war!  
Can ye to *Nile* transfer the *Roman* guilt,  
And let such blood by cowards hands be spilt?  
And thou, inglorious, feeble, beardless boy!  
Dar'st thou thy hand in such a deed employ?  
Does not thy trembling heart, with horror, dread  
*Jove's* thunder, grumbling o'er thy guilty head?  
Had not his arms with triumphs oft been crown'd,  
And ev'n the vanquish'd world his conquests own'd;  
Had not the rev'rend senate call'd him head,  
And *Cæsar* giv'n fair *Julia* to his bed,  
He was a *Roman* still: A name should be  
For ever sacred to a king like thee.  
Ah! fool, thus blindly by thyself undone,  
Thou seek'st his ruin, who upheld thy throne:  
He only could thy feeble pow'r maintain,  
Who gave thee first o'er *Egypt's* realm to reign."

*Ibid.* v. 737.—777.

"Say you! who with the stain of murder brand  
Immortal *Brutus's* avenging hand,  
What monstrous title, yet to speech unknown,  
To latest times shall mark *Septimius* down!

*Ibid.* v. 822.—826.

"Caught by the venerable locks, which grow,  
In hoary ringlets, on his gen'rous brow;  
To *Egypt's* impious king that head they bear,  
That laurels us'd to bind, and monarchs fear.

Those

condition of a woman in the height of grief from so tragical an object, than to describe it. The *Roman* ships made off to sea with all the haste they were able. *Cornelia* and *Sextus* escaped first to *Tyre*, and from thence into *Africa*: but most of the other ships were taken by the *Egyptian* gallies, and all that were found on board them were cruelly put to the sword, among whom was *Lucius Lentulus* the former year's consul, who was the chief author of the war, by obstinately rejecting all the proposals that were made by *Cæsar* for peace.<sup>1</sup>

In

Those sacred lips, and that commanding tongue,  
On which the list'ning forum oft has hung;  
That tongue which could the world with ease restrain,  
And ne'er commanded war, or peace, in vain;  
That face, in which success came smiling home,  
And doubled ev'ry joy it brought to *Rome*;  
Now pale and wan, is fix'd upon a spear,  
And borne, for public view, aloft in air.  
The tyrant, pleas'd, beheld it; and decreed  
To keep this pledge of his detested deed.  
His slaves strait drain the serous parts away,  
And arm the wasting flesh against decay;  
Then drugs and gums through the void vessels pass,  
And for duration fix the stiff'ning mass.

Inglorious boy! degenerate and base!  
Thou last and worst of the *Lagean* race!  
Whose feeble throne, e're long, shall be compell'd  
To thy lascivious sister's reign to yield.

*Ibid.* v. 922—943.<sup>1</sup> *Prideaux*, II. 370.

In the mean time *Cæsar* made all possible haste to arrive in *Egypt*, where he suspected *Pompey* had retired, and was in hopes of finding him alive. He came to *Alexandria* with two legions, and 800 horse, in ten gallies of *Rhodes*, and a few ships of *Asia*. In these legions were not above 3200 men : but *Cæsar* confided so much in the fame of his great actions, that he thought every place would entertain him with safety.<sup>m</sup> On his arrival at *Alexandria* he was informed of *Pompey*'s death, and soon after on his entering the place he was presented with his head ; at the sight of which he wept, and turned away his face from it with abhorrence, as from an ungrateful spectacle, and ordered it to be buried in a proper place with all honourable solemnities.<sup>n</sup>

As

<sup>m</sup> *Cæsar. comment. de bello civ. l. 3. cap. 87.*

<sup>n</sup> *Plut. in Cæsar. Lucan. lib. IX.*

“ He who, relentless, through *Pharfalia* rode,  
And on the senate's mangled fathers trod ;  
He who, without one pitying sigh, beheld  
The blood and slaughter of that woful field ;  
Thee, murder'd *Pompey*, could not ruthless see,  
But pay'd the tribute of his grief to thee.  
Oh mystery of fortune, and of fate !  
Oh ill consoorted piety and hate !”

*Rosset's Lucan, b. IX. v. 1763—1770.*

*Pompey*'s head was brought to *Cæsar* by *Theodotus* the rhetorician of *Cbios*, the worthy preceptor of such a prince as *Ptolemy*. He was one of his council, and had been a  
princi-



As *Cæsar* was going out of his ship, he heard a clamor of the soldiers which the king had left to guard the city, and saw a concourse of people gathered about him; because the fasces were carried before him, which made the populace cry out, that it diminished the authority of their king. This tumult was soon opposed: but other commotions happened every day, in which many soldiers were slain. *Cæsar* therefore sent for some other legions out of *Asia*, as he was constrained to continue at *Alexandria* on account of the *Etesian* winds then blowing from the north, which prevented his sailing from thence.<sup>o</sup> In this vacant time, he employed himself in calling in the debt remaining due to him by *Auletes*; and in hearing and determining the controversy between *Ptolemy* and *Cleopatra*. *Auletes* had engaged the interest of *Cæsar* by a bribe of 10,000 talents, as before mentioned, part of which was unpaid, and was now exacted by *Cæsar* with rigor. *Pothinus* made this rigor appear greater to the people than it was; for he plun-

principal adviser of this barbarous murder. *Plutarch* says, he was afterwards taken by *Brutus* in *Asia*, and by him put to a very cruel death. *Appian* says, he was crucified by order of *Cassius*. It is pretty certain that he came to such an end as he deserved. *Ibid.* vol. II. note p. 259. *Uffer. Annal.* p. 466.

<sup>o</sup> *Cæsar. comment. ibid.* cap. 88. *Lucan*, b. X. v. 15  
—31. *Uffer. Annal.* p. 467.

plundered the temples of their gold and silver utensils, and made the king, and all the great officers of the court, eat out of earthen or wooden vessels, pretending that *Cæsar* had taken away all their silver and gold. But what most exasperated the *Egyptians*; was his calling their king and queen before him, to be judged by him as to the controversy that was between them; for he had sent out his peremptory order to each of them to dismiss their armies, and bring their causes to his hearing for a final decision. This was looked on as a violation of the majesty, and an invasion upon the sovereign authority of their king, who was an independant prince, and not subject to be judged by any man. To which *Cæsar* answered, that he did not take upon him to judge as a superior, but as an arbitrator appointed by the will of *Auletes*, who had thereby put his children under the tuition of the *Roman* state, and all the power of the *Romans* being vested in him as their dictator, it belonged to him to arbitrate and determine this controversy as guardian of those children by virtue of that will; and that he claimed it no otherwise, than to execute the will, and settle peace between the king and his sister, according to the purport of it. This explanation having facilitated the affair, it was brought before *Cæsar*, and ad-

vocates were appointed on both sides to plead the cause.<sup>p</sup>

But *Cleopatra* hearing that *Cæsar* was lasciviously given to the love of women, she laid a plot to attach him first to her person, and next to her cause; for she was a very wanton woman, and made nothing of prostituting herself to any one, either for her lust, or her interest. She desired *Cæsar*, to come in person, and plead her own cause before him: it was readily granted, and she was privately conveyed into the city by her servant, who carried her on his back, tied up in her bedding, to *Cæsar's* apartment in the citadel, where he threw down his burden, untied it, and up started the lady with the best airs she could put on. *Cæsar* was pleased with her stratagem, and smitten with her beauty; which had all the effect on him that she wanted. He lay with her that night, and begot a son on her, who from his name was called *Cæsarion*.<sup>q</sup>

The next morning *Cæsar* sent for *Ptolemy*, and pressed him to receive his sister again upon her own terms: at which the young king was so much enraged, that he ran out  
of

<sup>p</sup> *Plutarch. Prideaux, II. 371. Rollin, XII. 135. Usser. 467.*

<sup>q</sup> *Prid. 372.*

“ Oh fatal form! thy native *Egypt's* shame!  
Thou lewd perdition of the *Latian* name!  
How wert thou doom'd our furies to increase,  
And be what *Helen* was to *Troy* and *Greece*!”

*Rome's Lucan, b. X. v. 93—97.*

of the palace into the street, tore the diadem from his head, and complained to the people that he was betrayed. In a moment the whole city was in an uproar, and the populace came on tumultuously to assist their king, whose person was seized by the *Romans*, which quelled the *Egyptians*, who were assured by *Cæsar* that they would be fully satisfied with the judgment he should pass.

The next day *Cæsar* summoned an assembly of the people, before whom he brought out *Ptolemy* and *Cleopatra*: and after having caused the will of the late king to be read, he decreed, that they should reign jointly in *Egypt*, according to the tenour of that will: and farther, that *Ptolemy* the younger son, and *Arfinoe* the younger daughter, should reign in *Cyprus*. This contented the whole assembly, except *Photinus*, who dreaded the resentment of *Cleopatra*, and not only created new discontents among the people, but also prevailed with *Achillas* to bring his army from *Pelusium* to *Alexandria* to drive *Cæsar* out of it. *Achillas* had 20,000 good troops, and thought to overpower *Cæsar* immediately: but this great *Roman* posted his little army so judiciously, that he easily sustained the assault. *Achillas* then marched against the port, with an intention to seize the fleet, and shut up *Cæsar* by sea: but he also frustrated this attempt, by burning the *Egyptian* fleet, which consisted of fifty galleys, and 22 large ships. He then

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took possession of the tower of *Pharos*, which he garrisoned; and by this means preserved his communication by sea, without which he had been effectually ruined. *Cæsar* also fortified himself in the strongest quarter of the city, from whence *Arfinoe* escaped to *Achillas*; but *Cæsar* put *Photinus* to death; and such he says was the beginning of the *Alexandrian war*, at which place he concludes his commentaries.\*

Some of the ships, when on fire, drove to the shore, and communicated their flames to the adjoining houses; and spreading into that quarter of the city called *Bruchium*, consumed the noble library there, which had been the collection of several ages, and then contained four hundred thousand volumes. What a loss to literature!†

*Cæsar* sent for succors to all the adjacent parts; while the eunuch *Ganymedes* put *Achillas* to death, and succeeded him in the command of the *Egyptian army*,‡ as also the administration of all other affairs. He contrived many  
stra-

\* *Ibid.* *Cæsar. comment. de bello civili*, l. III, cap. lxxxix, xcii. xciii. *Lucan*, b. X. v. 518—590. 654—760. *Ussir. Annal.* p. 469.

† *Prideaux*, 373. *Rollin*, 137. See this vol. p. 95. 119.

‡ “With just remorse, repenting fortune paid  
This second victim to her *Pompey’s* shade.”

*Roussé’s Lucan*, b. X. v. 768,

stratagems to distress *Cæsar* during this war; particularly, he found means to spoil all the fresh water in his quarter; and was very near destroying him by that means; for there was no other fresh water in *Alexandria*, but that of the *Nile*, which was kept in vaulted reservoirs in every house, supplied from the river by a canal, which communication he stopt, and turned the sea-water into the reservoirs: but *Cæsar* sunk wells so deep that he found springs, which supplied him with fresh water again.<sup>w</sup>

*Cæsar* defeated *Ganymedes* in three naval engagements, and was joined by a legion sent by *Calvinus*; while a considerable army was assembled for him in *Syria* and *Cilicia*, under *Mithridates* of *Pergamus*, who entered *Egypt*, and took *Pelusium* by storm. In the second battle at sea, *Cæsar* had like to have perished. By attempting to take the town in the island of *Pharos*, and the mole leading to it called the *Heptastadium*, he was repulsed with the loss of about 800 men, and had like to have been lost himself in the rout: for finding the ship in which he endeavoured to escape ready to sink, by reason of the numbers of those who had crowded into it, he threw himself into the sea, and with difficulty got off by swimming to the next ship of his in the port. While he thus made his escape, he carried some valuable papers which he had then about

S 3

him

<sup>w</sup> *Hirtius de bello Alexandrino. cap. iv. v.*



him in one hand, and swam with the other, whereby he saved both himself and them.\*

*Cæsar* was persuaded to send king *Ptolemy* to the *Egyptian* army in compliance with their desire, and on a promise of peace: but when they had the king at their head, they pressed on the war with greater vigor than before. *Mithridates* advanced with his army, and defeated a body of *Egyptians* who defended the banks of the *Nile*. *Ptolemy* then advanced with his whole army, to oppose the victors; and *Cæsar* marched to support them. A decisive battle ensued, in which *Cæsar* obtained an absolute victory. *Ptolemy* endeavoured to escape in a boat, which sunk, and he was drowned in the *Nile*: after which, *Cæsar* returned to *Alexandria*, and all *Egypt* submitted to the conqueror.†

*Cæsar* gave the crown of *Egypt* to *Cleopatra*, in conjunction with *Ptolemy* her younger brother, who was only eleven years of age. The passion

\* *Hirtius*, cap. xlii. xiv. *Suetonius*, cap. lxi. *Lucan*, b. X. v. 783—847. *Usser. Annal.* p. 471.

Justice and fate the floating chief convey,  
And *Rome*'s glad genius wafts him on his way;  
Freedom and laws the *Phar*ian darts withstand,  
And save him for avenging *Brutus*' hand."

*Ibid.* v. 870,

With these lines *Lucan* concludes his *Pharsalia*: a noble monumental poem to the dying liberty of *Rome*,

† *Hirtius*, cap. xviii. xxii

passion which *Cæsar* had conceived for that princess, was properly the sole cause of his embarking in so dangerous a war; and his affection for her kept him much longer in *Egypt*, than his affairs required. He passed whole nights in feasting with her, and one of these magnificent banquets is elegantly described by *Lucan*, in his last book. *Cæsar* even intended to marry *Cleopatra*: but after continuing nine months in *Egypt*, he was obliged to quit it, to oppose *Pharnaces*, whom he defeated, and drove out of the kingdom of *Pontus*.<sup>2</sup>

*Cæsar* took *Arsinoë* prisoner, and carried her to *Rome*, where she walked in his triumph in chains of gold; but immediately after that solemnity he set her at liberty. She was not permitted to return into *Egypt*, and took up her residence in the province of *proper Asia*, where she was put to death by *Antony*, after the battle of *Philippi*, at the request of *Cleopatra*.<sup>a</sup>

During the minority of the younger *Ptolemy*, all power was invested in *Cleopatra*, who poisoned him when he attained his fifteenth year, and remained sole

queen of *Egypt*.<sup>b</sup> In this interval *Cæsar* had been killed at *Rome* by the conspirators, at the head of whom were *Brutus* and *Cassius*: and the

Year of the  
world 3961.  
Before Christ  
43.

<sup>2</sup> *Plutarch*.

<sup>a</sup> *Uffer. Annal. p. 474.*

<sup>b</sup> *Prideaux, II. 390.*

the triumvirate between *Antony*, *Lepidus*, and *Octavius Cæsar*, had been formed to avenge the death of *Cæsar*.<sup>c</sup>

*Cleopatra* declared for the triumvirs, and sailed with a numerous fleet to join *Antony* and *Octavius*, who defeated *Brutus* and *Cassius* at *Philippi*; after which *Antony* came into *Asia*, to establish the authority of the triumvirate. *Cleopatra* met him at *Tarsus* in *Cilicia*, which proved his destruction: her beauty, wit, and art enflamed him almost to madness, and extinguished all his military flame.

*Cleopatra* was then 25 years old, and the graces of her person were more powerful than the magnificence of her dress. When she entered the river *Cydnus*, never was equipage more splendid and magnificent. The whole poop of her ship flamed with gold, the sails were purple, and the oars inlaid with silver. A pavilion of cloth of gold was raised upon the deck, under which appeared the queen, robed like *Venus*, and surrounded with the most beautiful virgins of her court, of whom some represented the *Nereids*, and others the *Graces*. Instead of trumpets, were heard flutes, hautboys, harps, and such other musical instruments, warbling the softest airs, to which the oars kept time, and rendered the harmony more agreeable. Perfumes burnt on the deck, which spread their odors to a great distance.

<sup>c</sup> *Rollin*, XII, 146. *Sueton.* cap. lxxxii.

distance on the river, and on each side of its banks, that were covered with an infinitude of people, who cried out, that it was *Venus* coming to make *Bacchus* a visit for the good of *Asia*.<sup>d</sup>

Great feasts were made every day between *Antony* and *Cleopatra*; and it was at this time that he caused *Arsinoe*, her sister, to be put to death. It was at one of these feasts, that *Cleopatra* had two of the finest pearls in her ears that ever were seen, each of which was valued at about 50,000 l. sterling. She melted one of these pearls in vinegar, and swallowed it: she would have done the same by the other, but was prevented; and this pearl was afterwards consecrated to *Venus* by *Augustus*, who carried it from *Alexandria* to *Rome*.<sup>e</sup>

*Cleopatra* accompanied *Antony* as far as *Tyre*, and he followed her to *Alexandria*, where they spent the whole winter in a most scandalous conversation of luxury and lasciviousness. *Antony* returned to *Rome*, and married *Octavia* the sister of *Octavius*, and widow of *Marcellus*: but he still retained his fondness for *Cleopatra*, and met her at *Lucecome* in *Phœnicia*, from whence he returned with her to *Egypt*, where he indulged his inordinate passion for this lascivious woman to the highest excess of voluptuous-

<sup>d</sup> *Rollin*, 146. This is elegantly described in *Dryden's*  
"All for Love."

<sup>e</sup> *Rollin*, 149.

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luptuousness.<sup>f</sup> He gave her *Phœnicia*, the lower *Syria*, and *Cyprus*, with great parts of *Cilicia*, *Judæa*, and *Arabia*. He also made her a present of the libraries of *Pergamus*, in which were above 200,000 volumes, and she placed them in a new library, which she built where the former one stood. She had a taste for polite learning and the sciences, and understood several languages. She omitted no kind of arts to keep *Antony* in her chains, and he entered *Alexandria* in triumph, dragging at his chariot-wheels the king of *Armenia*, laden with chains of gold, and presented him in that condition to *Cleopatra*, who was pleased to see a captive king at her feet.<sup>g</sup> At one of their banquets, when *Antony* was intoxicated with wine, she presumed to ask him to give her the *Roman* empire, which he was not ashamed to promise her.

*Cleopatra* had two sons by *Antony*, one of whom was called *Alexander*, and the other *Ptolemy*. He heaped a profusion of honors on these young princes, and celebrated the coronation of their mother with great magnificence. She attended him in his progress through *Greece*, where he repudiated *Octavia*, and declared war against *Octavius*, who then declared war against *Cleopatra*, though actually intended against *Antony*.

The force of *Antony* was assembled at *Samos*,  
and

<sup>f</sup> *Prideaux*, 439.

<sup>g</sup> *Rollin*, 154.

and that of *Octavius* at *Brundusium*. The former had a fleet of five hundred large ships, on board of which was an army of 200,000 foot, and 22,000 horse: the latter had only two hundred and fifty ships, 80,000 foot, and 12,000 horse. The two fleets came to a decisive battle at the mouth of the gulph of *Ambracia*, near the city of *Actium* in *Epirus*, in sight of both the armies. It was doubtful for some time, till the retreat of *Cleopatra*, who fled with the whole *Egyptian* Squadron, and was precipitately followed by *Antony*, whose army submitted to *Octavius* <sup>h</sup>

*Antony* and *Cleopatra* escaped to *Alexandria*, where she put many great persons to death. To avoid falling into the hands of *Octavius*, she formed the very extraordinary design to have her ships in the *Mediterranean* carried into the *Red-sea*, over the *Isthmus* of seventy miles: but in this she was prevented by the *Arabians*, who burnt all her ships in the *Red sea*. *Antony* found himself deserted by all his followers, and for some time secluded himself from all company in his house which he called *Timonium*, where he pretended to act the part of *Timon the man-bater*.<sup>i</sup> But he soon returned to the arms of *Cleopatra*; and with her revelled away the remaining part of his life. He even sent deputies to *Octavius*, to demand life of him, upon the shameful conditions of passing

<sup>h</sup> *Prideaux*, 450. *Rollin*, 163.

<sup>i</sup> *Plutarch*, in *Antonia*.



it at *Athens* as a private person, if *Octavius* would assure *Egypt* to *Cleopatra* and her children.

*Antony* then endeavoured to extinguish in himself the sense of his present misfortunes, and the apprehension of those that threatened him, by abandoning himself immoderately to feasting and voluptuousness. *Cleopatra* and he regaled themselves alternately, and emulously contended to exceed each other in the incredible magnificence of their banquets. However, the queen foresaw what might happen, and collected all sorts of poison, to try which of them occasioned death with the least pain. She made the experiment of their virtues and strength upon condemned criminals; whereby she found, that the strongest poisons caused death the soonest, but with great torment; and that those which were gentle brought an easy, but slow death. She tried the bitings of venomous creatures, and caused various kinds of serpents to be applied to different persons. She made these experiments every day; and discovered at length, that the asp<sup>k</sup> was the only one that caused neither torture

k " First of those plagues the drowzy asp appear'd,  
Then first her crest and swelling neck she rear'd;  
A larger drop of black congealing blood  
Distinguish'd her amidst the deadly brood.  
Of all the serpent-race are none so fell;  
None with so many deaths, such plenteous venom swell:

torture nor convulsions; and which, throwing the person bit into an immediate heaviness and stupefaction, attended with a slight sweating upon the face, and a numbness of all the organs of sense, gently extinguished life: so that those in that condition were angry when any one awakened them, or endeavoured to make them rise, like people exceedingly sleepy. This was the poison she fixed upon: but she applied herself with more than ordinary sollicitude in caressing *Antony*, to dispel his suspicions and complaints.

*Octavius* invested *Pelusium*, and summoned the governor to open the gates. *Seleucus* who commanded there for *Cleopatra*, had received secret orders upon that head, and surrendered the place without waiting for a siege. While the rumor of this treason spread in the city, *Cleopatra* ordered her most precious moveables to be carried to a place of security. Adjoining to the temple of *Isis*, she had caused tombs and halls to be erected, superb as well for their beauty and magnificence, as their loftiness and extent. Here she removed all her gold, silver, jewels, ebony, ivory, and a large quantity of perfumes and aromatic wood; as if she intended to raise a funeral pile, upon which she would consume herself with her

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trea-

Chill in themselves, our colder climes they shun,  
And chuse to bask in *Afric's* warmer sun."

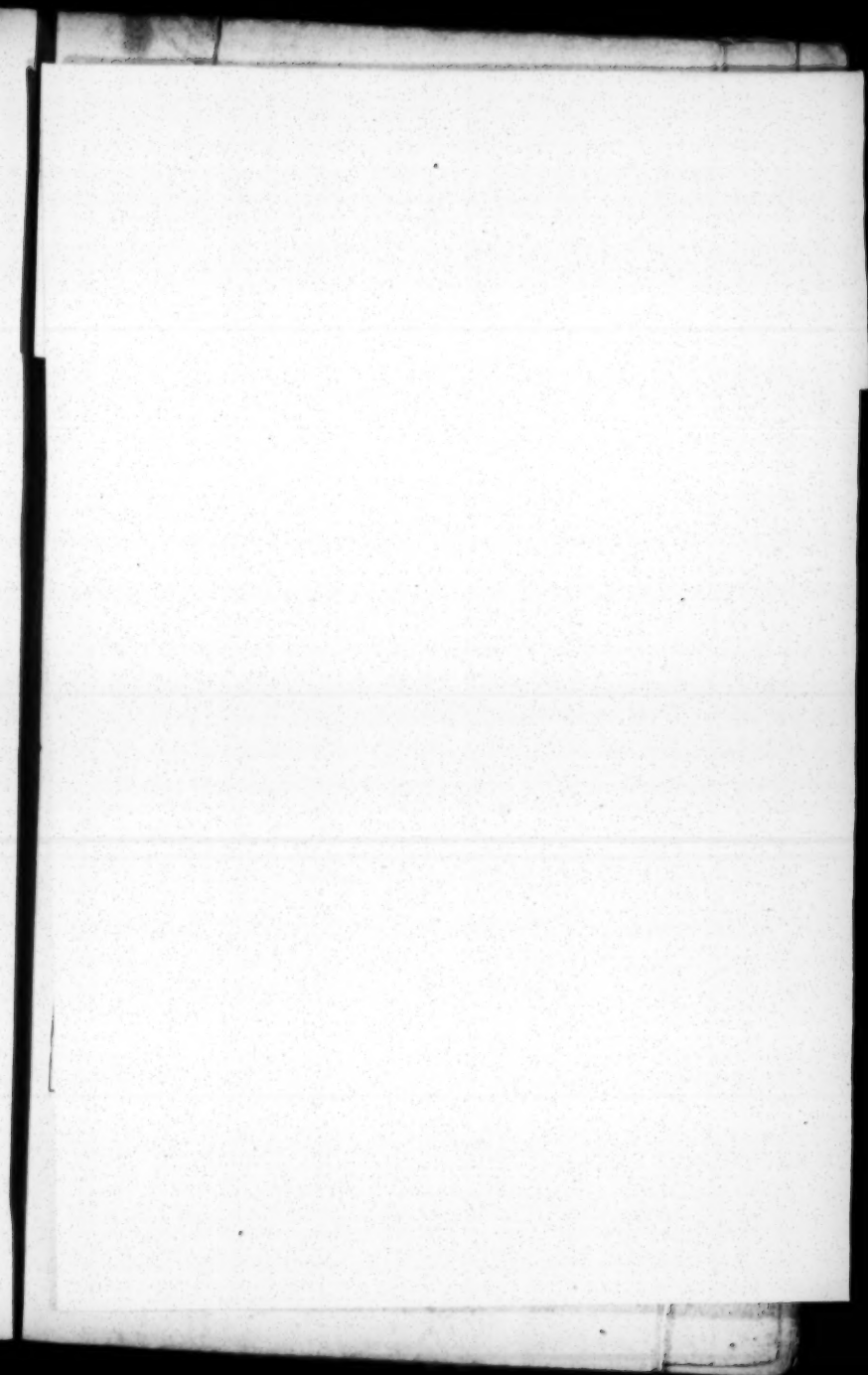
*Rowe's Lucan B. IX, v. 1138—1200.*

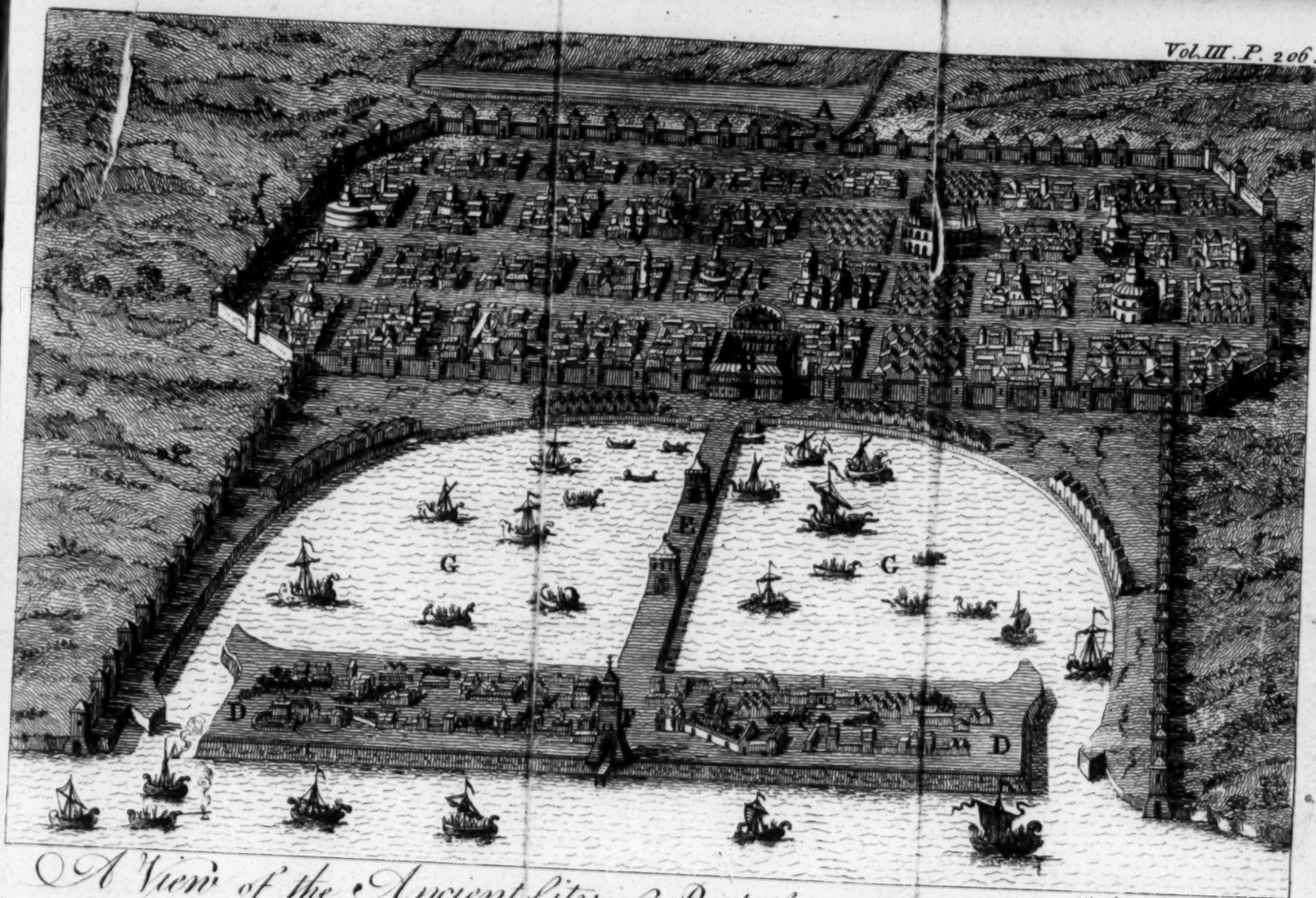
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treasures. *Octavius* was alarmed on that account, and daily dispatched messengers to her, to give her great hopes of the most kind and generous treatment; while he advanced towards the city with great marches.

Upon arriving there, he encamped near the *Hippodrome*, and was in hopes of making himself master of the city soon, by means of the intelligence he held with *Cleopatra*; upon which he relied no less than upon his army. *Antony* was ignorant of her intrigues, and prepared for a good defence. He made a vigorous sally, and returned victorious into the city; which was the last effort of his expiring genius; for after this exploit, his fortitude and sense of glory abandoned him, or were of service to him no more. The next day, he resolved to attack *Octavius* by sea and land: but he had the mortification to see the *Egyptian* admiral surrender his whole fleet to *Octavius*; and *Antony* then perceived the perfidy of *Cleopatra*.

Seized with rage and despair, *Antony* flew to the palace, with design to revenge himself upon *Cleopatra*, who had secured herself from his fury among the tombs; which quarter was fortified with good walls, and the gates were shut. She caused *Antony* to be told, that she had destroyed herself, and chose her own sepulchre among the tombs of her ancestors. Struck with the idea of her death, he passed immediately from excess of rage to the most violent transports of grief, and thought only  
of





*A View of the Ancient City & Port of ALEXANDRIA, & Isle of Pharos.*

A. The City B. The Royal Palace C. The Theatre adjoining to it D. The Island of Pharos.  
 E. The narrow way that joined it to the City F. The Light-house G. The Port.

*Strophomena*



of following her into the grave. Having taken this furious resolution, he shut himself up in his apartment with a slave, whom he caused to take off his armor, and commanded him to plunge his dagger into his breast. But that slave, full of affection, respect, and fidelity for his master, stabbed himself with it, and fell dead at his feet. *Antony*, looking upon this action as an example for him to follow, thrust his sword into his body, and fell upon the floor, in a torrent of his blood, which he mingled with that of his slave. At that moment an officer came to let him know, that *Cleopatra* was alive. He no sooner heard her name pronounced, than he opened his dying eyes; suffered his wound to be dressed, and caused himself to be carried to the fort where she had shut herself up. *Cleopatra* would not permit the gates to be opened to give him entrance, for fear of some surprize: but she appeared at an high window, from whence she threw down chains and cords. *Antony* was made fast to these, and *Cleopatra* assisted by two women, who were the only persons she had brought with her into the tomb, drew him up. Never was there a more moving sight. *Antony*, all bathed in his blood, with death painted in his face, was dragged up in the air, turning his dying eyes, and extending his feeble hands to *Cleopatra*, as if to conjure her to receive his last breath; while she, with her features distorted, and her arms strained, pulled the cords with her

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whole strength. When she had drawn him up to her, and had laid him on a bed, she tore her cloaths upon him, and making the most mournful exclamations, cut off his hair, according to the superstition of the pagans, who believed that a relief to those who died a violent death. *Antony* recovered his senses, expressed his happiness to die in her arms, and then expired, eleven months after the battle of *Actium*.

*Octavius* then entered *Alexandria* without farther opposition, and gave *Cleopatra* fair hopes, that he might have her treasure preserved for his occasions, and her person for his triumph: but when he had both in his power, he disregarded her, which made her resolved on death, to prevent the disgrace of being carried to *Rome* to grace his triumphal car. She had an interview with *Octavius*, who permitted her to bury *Antony* with the utmost magnificence; and she spared no cost in his interment, according to the custom of *Egypt*. She caused his body to be embalmed with the most exquisite perfumes of the east, and placed it among the tombs of the *Egyptian* kings.

After visiting the tomb of *Antony*, and strewing it with flowers, she returned to her chamber, went into a bath, and from thence to table, which was served magnificently. When she rose from table, she wrote a letter to *Octavius*; and having made all quit her chamber except her two women, she shut the door,

door, sat down upon a bed, and asked for a basket of figs, which a peasant had lately brought. She placed it by her, and a moment after lay down as if she had fallen asleep: but that was the effect of the asp, which was concealed among the fruit, and had stung her in the arm, which she had held to it. The poison immediately communicated itself to the heart, and killed her without pain.<sup>1</sup>

Thus died the most beautiful and ambitious princess that ever lived, in the 39th year of her age, and 22d of her reign, from the death of her father. In her death ended the reign of the *Ptolemies* in *Egypt*, after it had continued 294 years, from the death of *Alexander the Great*. She was a woman of great parts, as well as of great vice and wickedness:

<sup>1</sup> The death of *Cleopatra* put an end to the war between *Octavius* and *Antony*. *Horace* compos'd six odes upon this subject: but the 37th of his first book is the most beautiful. The character of *Cleopatra* is perfectly finished, and her death represented in very natural and lively colors.

“ With fearless hand she dar'd to grasp  
The writhings of the wrathful asp,  
And suck the poison through her veins,  
Resolv'd on death, and fiercer from its pains;  
Then scorning to be led the boast  
Of mighty *Cæsar's* naval host;  
And, arm'd with more than mortal spleen,  
Defrauds a triumph, and expires a queen.”

*Francis's Horace, v. I. p. 138.*

ness: for besides being well skilled in *Greek* and *Latin*, she could converse with *Ethiopians*, *Troglodytes*, *Jews*, *Arabians*, *Syrians*, *Medes*, and *Persians*, without an interpreter; and always gave to such as were of these nations, as often as they had an occasion to address to her, an answer in their own language.

The kingdom of *Egypt* was now reduced into a *Roman* province, and was governed by a prefect sent thither from *Rome*. *Cornelius Gallus*, the famous *Latin* poet, of whom *Virgil* wrote his tenth eclogue, was the first that had this prefecture by the appointment of *Augustus*: and under this form of government *Egypt* continued a province of the *Roman* empire 670 years, till it was taken from them by the *Saracens* in the year of our lord 641.<sup>m</sup>

*Octavius* having thus made himself master of *Egypt*, and thereby put an end to the civil wars of the *Romans*, he cut off all such of the opposite party as he thought might again revive them, among whom was *Cæsarion*, *Cleopatra's* son by *Julius Cæsar*: but the children which *Cleopatra* had by *Antony* were treated with clemency. He commanded her body to be buried with all possible funeral pomp, and laid in the same tomb with *Antony*, whose statues were thrown down, but those of *Cleopatra* remained as they were.

When

*The History of EGYPT.* 211.

When *Octavius* returned to *Rome*, among his other triumphs, was one for his conquest of *Egypt*. In it were led before him the children of *Cleopatra*; and although he could not have her in person to adorn this triumph, as he much desired, yet she was carried before him in effigy, with an asp hanging at her arm, to denote the manner by which she died. At this time such vast riches were brought from *Egypt* to *Rome*, that the value of money fell one half, and the prices of provisions and merchandize were doubled thereon.

From this conquest of *Egypt* begun the æra of the *Ætiac* victory, by which the *Egyptians* afterwards computed their time, till the reign of the emperor *Dioclesian*, in the year of Christ 284. The old æra till now in use among them was the *Philippic*, which commenced from the death of *Alexander*, and the beginning of the reign of *Philippus Aridæus* his successor; and the form of their year was the same with the *Nabonassaræan* made use of by the *Chaldeans*, which consisted of 365 days: but the *Romans* rectified the *Egyptian* kalendar by the *Julian* stile. It was erroneously said to be the 29th of *August*: but it was truly the 31st of that month, from whence this *Egyptian* æra of the *Ætiac* victory, and all the years by which it computed, had their beginning.

This æra truly had its beginning from the conquest of *Egypt*, and therefore ought to have  
been

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been called the æra of the *Alexandrian* victory, whereby that country was reduced under the *Roman* yoke. But the *Egyptians*, to avoid the disgrace of thus owning this conquest, rather chose to call it the æra of the *Ætiac* victory; though that was gained a whole year before; and since this æra was only used in *Egypt*, they had it there in their full power to call it by what name they pleased.

*Diodorus Siculus* tells us, that he came into *Egypt* in the reign of *Ptolemy Dionysius* the younger, who reigned with *Cleopatra*. This was in the 180th olympiad; which answers to 58 years before Christ.<sup>n</sup>

<sup>n</sup> *Diod. l. I. p. 25.*

END of the THIRD VOLUME.

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